Trade and Industry

11 August 1978 Every Friday 40p

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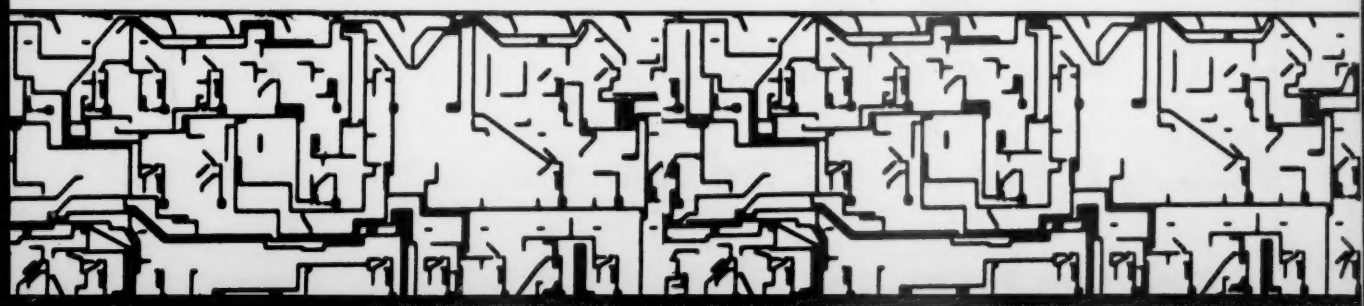
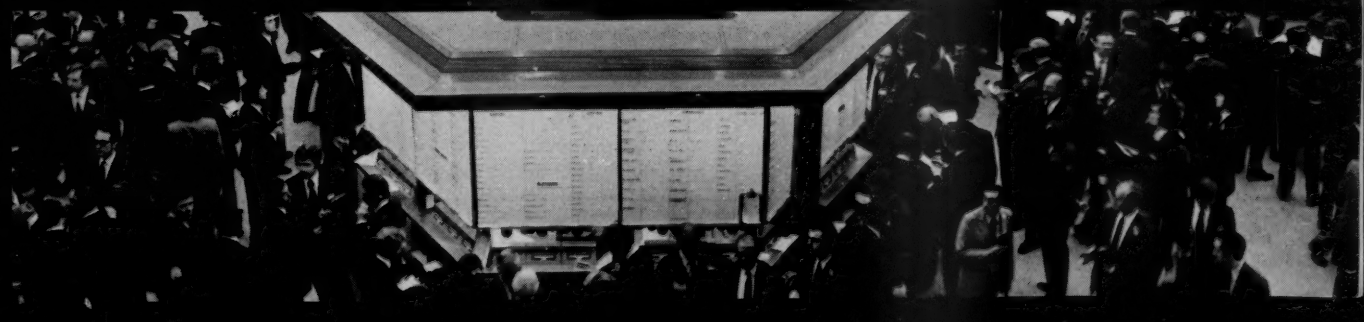
EC directive on company accounts Acquisitions mergers





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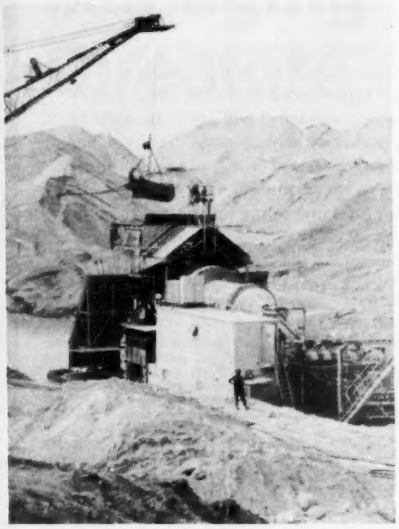

Export prospects in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania are the subject of this week's overseas feature, the first of two covering the changing face of west Africa.

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Chairmen and Managing Directors

The following executives are seeking to further their careers within fields where proven experience counts and is rewarded accordingly

FINANCE

1. **Financial Controller.** ACMA. Working German. An impressive manager with 8 years industrial experience and now F/C of £6m t.o. subsidiary. Promotion blockage and seeking career development outside present manufacturing group.
Age 26 Salary £8,000+
2. **Audit senior.** ACA. Good French. Eight years professional experience including substantial period in Africa. Now wishes to make a career move into industry or commerce leading to line management. Very promising material and very flexible as to location.
Age 27 Salary circa £7,500
3. **Corporate Planner.** BSc (Hons) Statistics, MSc Management Science. Good French. Highly numerate with exceptional experience of road and rail freight and container traffic. Also some banking and G/M experience. Seeking career move and increased remuneration.
Age 28 Salary £8,000+
4. **Financial Manager.** ACA, MSc (Econ). His sound corporate financial experience includes international merchant banking and a knowledge of the Eurodollar Far East markets and acquisition techniques. Seeks career move to gain increased responsibility and 'sharp-end' involvement. Location flexible.
Age 29 Salary circa £10,000
5. **F/C – Merchant Banker.** BSc (Hons), ACA, MBA. His impressive record includes treasury and management experience with major industrial and financial services groups and an oil company. Promotion blockage, seeking career development move into a manufacturing environment.
Age 33 Salary £10,000+
6. **Financial/Legal executive.** LLB (Hons), LLM, MBA (Finance). Impressive and likeable with considerable experience of international joint-venture and acquisition negotiations. Wishes to put down roots with large industrial group. Location and salary flexible for the right job.
Age 32 Salary circa £12,000
7. **Financial Manager.** B Tech. MBA. ACCA. Working French. Highly numerate and analytical with some treasury and consultancy experience in heavy industry. Seeks a career move back into industry with P and L responsibilities.
Age 29 Salary circa £12,000
8. **Group Chief Accountant.** ACCA. HNC business studies. His senior level experience includes civil engineering, petro-chem consultancy and manufacturing. Promotion blockage, seeking career move.
Age 29 Salary £10,000+
9. **Financial Manager.** MA (Cantab) Engineering, PL.D (Finance). Good French. A particularly able financial executive with major group treasury experience (£X billions) as well as full electrical and mechanical engineering qualifications. A high flyer who seeks a career move caused by promotion blockage.
Age 29 Salary circa £12,500
10. **Finance Director.** FCA. Good German. A successful medium sized company director whose wide range of manufacturing experience includes wholesale and retail distribution. Particularly strong in costing experience. Seeking career move with long term G/M potential.
Age 34 Salary £10,000
11. **Financial Director.** FCA, ATII, ACA (Nigeria). After considerable professional practice experience in the UK, Nigeria and Iran he moved into international contract work (construction) – shortly available for new contract, location very flexible.
Age 36 Salary £12,000+
12. **Finance/Admin Manager.** FCA. Good German. Swiss 'C' permit holder. Impressive experience in major international manufacturing, commodity and shipping group, (t.o. £800m+) in Europe. Seeking a career move with increased responsibility. Location flexible.
Age 34 Salary £35,000+

MARKETING

13. **Export Salesman.** HND Business Studies. Fluent German and French with 7 years commercial experience, 4 of which in export selling (consumer goods) world wide. Especially to Scandinavia, Middle East and Australasia. Seeking career development and improved remuneration.
Age 26 Salary circa £6,000
14. **Sales/Contracts Manager.** BA (Hotel Management), MBA, MHCIMA, M Inst MK. Fluent French and German good Spanish. With 7 successful years in travel and hotel management now seeks career development in an international service industry. Location very flexible.
Age 27 Salary circa £8,000
15. **Salesman.** MA (Oxon). Fluent French and Spanish, good Italian. An experienced industrial salesman handling plastics and wrapping materials. Seeking career development and greater involvement in export selling. Very flexible as to product range and location.
Age 27 Salary £5,000+
16. **Export salesman.** Trilingual English, Dutch, German, good French, a natural professional salesman. Has handled continuous process equipment, chemicals and consumer products with considerable success. Location flexible.
Age 34 Salary circa £6,000
17. **Export Sales Manager.** Fluent French. A highly self-motivated and successful international salesman with an exceptional record in selling industrial raw materials, turnkey projects chemicals and general trading. Tough and practical – entirely flexible as to location and product range.
Age 29 Salary £15,000
18. **Export Sales Manager.** BSc (chemistry). A dedicated export salesman whose experience covers bulk chemicals, pharmaceuticals and textiles, especially to the central Americas and the Middle East. Promotion blockage.
Age 32 Salary circa £6,000
19. **Marketing Manager.** BSc (agriculture), Hons Dip MKT. With highly successful market research and planning experience in agricultural pharmaceuticals and poultry production. Wishes to broaden his experience towards general management.
Age 29 Salary £10,000
20. **Marketing/Buying Director.** BA Econ. Good French. A highly numerate and successful executive in the durable consumer goods, building products and DIY industries. A man of considerable ability and integrity. Seeking career development.
Age 30 Salary £8,000+
21. **European Marketing Manager.** M Int Ex. Trilingual English, French, German, working Spanish. Has a most impressive 18 year record covering Western and Eastern Europe in textiles, industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals and veterinary products. Seeking career move with greater responsibility.
Age 40 Salary £12,000
22. **Marketing Manager.** MA (Cantab) Hons. Dip. MKT. Good German. Outstanding performer in f.m.c.g. including wholesale, retail and cash and carry foods. Seeking career development leading to general management.
Age 40 Salary £10,000+
23. **International Marketing Manager.** Highly intelligent with considerable experience of the electronics component industry in Europe and America. Also some distribution and general management experience. Seeking a career move towards general management. Location flexible.
Age 37 Salary circa £14,000
24. **Sales/Marketing Director.** Good French with substantial experience in the electrical component and material handling industries. Some general management experience on which he now wishes to build.
Age 42 Salary £11,000

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

25. **Contract Engineer.** BSc Civil Eng. M Eng. (foundations). A likeable engineer with strong experience in piling, pipe-laying, excavation and concrete work in Scotland and the Gulf. Seeks a move to broaden experience and a change of scent.
Age 31 Salary circa £12,500
26. **Management Auditor.** BA (business studies), Msc administration. An impressive natural leader, both practical and numerate with experience in company investigation and analysis covering production, personnel, sales and finance. An intelligent and likeable team leader. **Age 30 Salary £9,000+**
27 **R and D engineer.** BSc (1st Class Hons). A most unusually talented Mech/Elect. production engineer with substantial sales experience in the metallurgical recovery industries. Initially served a Rolls Royce engineering apprenticeship. Seeking career development and increased remuneration. **Age 27 Salary circa £8,000**
28 **Training and Development Manager.** BA (1st Hons), MA (manpower studies). An international with a successful record with large UK group (20 000 employees). Introduced behavioural science to career development to human resources management. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 34 Salary £10,000**
29. **Commercial Manager.** LLB (Hons), MSc (finance and economics), good French. An impressive man with strong financial and legal background in banking and in metals and commodity trading. Seeking greater responsibility. **Age 29 Salary £12,500+**
30. **Project Manager.** BSc (Hons), Civil Eng., MICE, MI Struct E., C.Eng. A most impressive and well balanced civil engineer with Middle East and Iranian experience. Wishes to join British company on completion of present contract. A potential high flyer.
Age 28 Salary circa £14,000
31. **Managing Director.** BA (Cantab) Hons. Natural Sciences, MBA (finance) good French. A highly intelligent and provocative M/D with export sales and production experience in major industrial group. A tough self-confident high flyer seeking a career development move. **Age 31 Salary circa £14,000**
32. **Chief Geophysicist.** BA.Sc Hons. Fluent Danish, Norwegian, German, good Italian. A tough self-confident man with a lifetime experience as a geophysicist and Seismic interpreter contractor in connection with oil, diamond and sapphire mapping. Location entirely flexible world wide. **Age 53 Salary circa $60,000**
33. **Chief Executive.** BSc Eng (1st Class), ACGI, MICE, C.Eng. An impressive executive with strong technical background in electrical and electronic production with excellent I.R. record. Needs to earn more money, location very flexible. **Age 48 Salary neg. £14,000+**
34. **Managing Director.** MA, MIPM, ACCA, M. Inst. MKT. Fluent French. An impressive M/D whose excellent record covers manufacturing, semi-nationalised industries and food production in highly volatile areas. Seeking his ultimate career move.
Age 46 Salary £15,000+
35. **Chief Executive.** A highly intelligent and impressive M/D whose experience covers merchant banking, telecommunications and electronics and ship building. A tactful and successful IR negotiator. A top quality manager seeking a further career development.
Age 45 Salary £20,000
36. **International Group Chief Executive.** MA (Cantab). Economics fluent French. Impressive career in manufacturing and in international trade. Exceptional knowledge of Far Eastern Markets and personalities at the highest level. Location flexible.
Age 43 Salary £25,000+

NOTES
(i) All the above executives have been interviewed by us and we consider them to be high quality material in their particular range – there are several others whom space precludes.

(ii) If you require an executive of similar capability please contact me.

(iii) If you yourself feel that you match these standards and might benefit from a new opportunity please contact me in the strictest confidence and without any obligation.

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Home news

Another £10 million for advance factories

A £10 million advance factory programme for England's assisted areas was announced on 2 August.

It is expected to provide about 2500 job opportunities, said Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, in reply to a written parliamentary question.

The programme, eleventh in the regular government series started in July 1974, will provide 150 000 sq ft of floor space for Liverpool and 50 000 sq ft for Birkenhead, plus 39 factories elsewhere. It will bring the number of factories announced for the English regions in that period to more than 400, and provide about 4¾ million sq ft which, when completed and occupied, will give an employment potential of about 18 500.

Modernising older factories

Mr Williams added that the government had asked the English Industrial Estates Corporation to make plans to start the modernisation of their older factories. 'This should benefit the northern region in particular but should also bring early benefits to Merseyside,' he said.

He pointed out that there were also many factories still to be built under the previous programme. In the inner area of Newcastle upon Tyne, 40 000 sq ft of factory space was under construction with a further 120 000 sq ft to be built when land negotiations had been completed. 'In addition to our own building programme,' he added, 'the development commission will be building factories in the rural parts of the assisted areas. In particular, this should assist areas such as the south west.'

EIEC factory allocations up

Announcing details of the new programme, Mr Williams said that he was very encouraged that allocations of new English Industrial Estate Corporation factories for letting and sale had been increasing over recent years. This trend was continued into 1977, and the first half of this year. Last year 36 standard factories, 49 nursery units and 585 000 sq ft floor area had been allocated. In the first six months of 1978, the allocation of 13 standard factories and 36 nursery units amounted to 262 000 sq ft of floor space.

Advance factory programme: 1978

North west

Liverpool (inner city area)
South Dock Area, Scotland Road, Sandon Way: terrace units (TU) of various sizes amounting to 150 000 sq ft on the three sites

Birkenhead (inner area): TU of various sizes. Total 50 000 sq ft

St Helens (inner area): 2 × 15 000 sq ft

Barrow-in-Furness: 4 TU of 6600 sq ft. Total 26 400 sq ft

Ulverston: 1 × 5000 sq ft (also 5000 sq ft factory included in the previous announcement is being enlarged to 10 000 sq ft)

Manchester (inner city): 1 × 10 000 sq ft

Salford (inner area): 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Fleetwood: 1 × 10 000 sq ft; 4 TU of 3750 sq ft. Total 15 000 sq ft

Barnoldswick: Two factories of 5000 sq ft and 6800 sq ft will be constructed instead of 10 000 sq ft announced previously
Blackburn: 2 TU of 6800 sq ft will be constructed instead of a 10 000 sq ft factory announced previously

Northern

Sunderland: 2 TU of 5000 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Gateshead: 4 TU of 1700 sq ft. Total 7000 sq ft

Hartlepool: 4 TU of 3500 sq ft. Total 14 000 sq ft

Langbaurgh (south bank): 4 TU of 7000 sq ft. Total 28 000 sq ft. 4 TU announced previously will be changed in size from 2500 to 6000 sq ft, an increase of 14 000 sq ft

Middlesbrough: 1 of 20 000 sq ft

Workington (Allerdale): 3 TU of 3500 sq ft. Total 10 500 sq ft

Whitehaven (Cleator Moor): 2 TU of 5000 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Bishop Auckland: 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Blyth: 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Teesside (Thornaby): 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Yorkshire and Humberside

Hull (inner area): 6 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 15 000 sq ft

Grimsby: 1 × 5000 sq ft

Cleethorpes: 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Whitby: 3 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 7500 sq ft

Scunthorpe: 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Barton-upon-Humber: 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Doncaster: 1 × 5000 sq ft

Mexborough: 1 × 5000 sq ft

Rotherham (Hellaby): 1 × 5000 sq ft

Bradford (inner area): 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Bradford (inner area): plans for two 10 000 sq ft factories announced in the previous programme have been changed to 4 TU of 3500 sq ft each plus a terrace of one 4600 unit sq ft and 2 of 6000 sq ft, an increase of 10 600 sq ft

Wakefield (South Elmsall): 1 × 5000 sq ft

Kirklees (Coln Valley): 1 × 5000 sq ft

East Midlands

Louth: 2 × 5000 sq ft

Hartington (Chesterfield TWA): 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

Harworth (Doncaster TWA): 4 TU of 2500 sq ft. Total 10 000 sq ft

South west

Penzance: 2 × 5000 sq ft

Bideford: 1 × 10 000 sq ft

Truro: 1 × 10 000 sq ft

Changes in assisted areas

Three minor adjustments in the boundaries of the assisted areas in Scotland and Wales, where small extensions of existing special development areas (SDAs) are to be made, have been announced by Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry.

Two are sites identified for industrial development – Bloak Moss in Ayrshire and Briton Ferry in West Glamorgan – where a development area boundary runs through their middle. The third change is at Livingston New Town in Scotland where the boundary is being extended to correspond to the recently extended boundary of the new town. Changes will take effect on 24 August.

The changes will result in an increase from 20 per cent to 22 per cent in the rate of regional development grants in the areas concerned. Regional selective assistance and government advance factories may also be made available on improved terms.

At Livingston, the new town boundary has been extended to include two small areas which are being developed as industrial estates. The SDA boundary is to be similarly extended to give the new industrial estates the same status as the existing estates and to avoid distorting the pattern of industrial development in the new town.

Most of Bloak Moss, a site zoned for industrial development adjacent to Irvine New Town, is in the Irvine SDA but the rest is in the neighbouring DA. To make it easier to achieve a sensible development of the site as a whole, the SDA is being extended to cover the whole of the site.

At Briton Ferry, Duport Steelworks is to close in 1979 and the site is to be redeveloped as an industrial estate. The SDA is being extended to cover the whole of the site.

New US sports car to be built in Belfast

Construction work is to start within two months on a new sports car assembly plant in Northern Ireland.

The investment, by the De Lorean Motor Co of Detroit, is eventually expected to provide 2000 jobs at the Twinbrook industrial estate, Dunmurry, on the outskirts of Belfast. Production is due to start late next year.

Announcing the project on 3 August, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Roy Mason explained that it would bring short-term employment to 800 people who would be involved in construction of the 500 000 sq ft factory. The project itself would provide 600 jobs initially, building up fairly rapidly to some 1500, with a longer-term prospect of

around 2000 jobs in fabrication and assembly operations.

Mr Mason said that he was particularly pleased that the De Lorean company had chosen to locate its project in an area where there was one of the highest unemployment levels in Northern Ireland.

He pointed out that this was the fourth American investment to opt for Northern Ireland in the last five months, following AVX, General Motors and Coronary Care Systems. Altogether the four held out the promise of 3500 jobs in the region.

The car to be assembled at the new plant is the first new American sports car for 25 years. It is a two-seater, gull-wing sports car designed by Italian designer de Giugiaro, with plastic body construction and outer surfaces of stainless steel.

The De Lorean company has said that 20 000 of the new cars will be assembled in the first year of production, increasing to 30 000 by the third year. Explaining its choice of location 'after an exhaustive year-long site selection process', the company said Northern Ireland offered the best balance on such factors as cost of production, availability of skilled and semi-skilled labour, access to international transportation and proximity to major component suppliers.

First new American sports car for 25 years.

Government responds to inner Merseyside study

Government response to a report by PA Management Consultants' on the economic regeneration of inner Merseyside was given in a parliamentary written answer on 2 August by Minister of State for Industry Alan Williams.

The report, he said, rightly devotes considerable attention to co-ordination of the bodies concerned with industrial development and promotion and to possible new ways of promotion. One of the main purposes of the Liverpool Inner City Partnership Committee was to concert efforts to stimulate economic regeneration, he said. 'Accordingly, the Secretary of State for the Environment has written to the leaders of Liverpool City Council and Merseyside County Council to propose consideration at the September partnership meeting of the establishment of a sub-committee of the partnership under the chairmanship of Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry.'

This sub-committee would consider implementation of appropriate recommendations of the consultants'report, he added.

The consultants' recommendation of a charter for industrial relations was, Mr Williams pointed out, primarily a matter for local employers and trade unions.

The results of the Department of Employment's analysis of certain aspects of industrial relations in Merseyside would also be relevant, he said.

He emphasised that the report considered that the regional and other incentives available for manufacturing industry were adequate. 'This reflects the effects of the increased free rental and interest-free periods announced for special development areas,' he said. 'Merseyside has benefited considerably from these and other measures since the present government came into office. Offers of regional selective financial assistance up to 30 June 1978 amounting to £58.5 million have been made for 276 projects, costing in total £360.2 million creating or safeguarding 43 600 jobs. In addition, offers of assistance amounting to £2.8 million have been made under the various national schemes for investment for 32 projects costing in total £25.2 million.'

Mr Williams pointed out that of the £11 million made available under the April 1977 construction package, £4.3 million had been devoted to industrial purposes. The drawing up of the first inner area programme, which had almost been completed, would doubtless emphasise measures to regenerate the local economy. It was being allocated £10 million a year initially for the three years from 1978-79, he said.

He indicated that the consultants' views would be fully taken into account in the current review of the regional selective assistance available to mobile service industries in assisted areas. The government, in consultation with the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, was also considering the consultants' recommendation relating to the port of Liverpool.

'The government agrees with the report that active steps must be taken to ensure that adequate land is available for industrial development,' he continued. 'This is an important issue confronting the Liverpool Inner City Partnership Committee. As a first step, the partnership is already reviewing holdings of vacant land including that held by nationalised industries and statutory undertakers. The review also covers the problems of bringing these holdings into productive use.'

Petroleum revenue tax increase proposed

Proposed changes in petroleum revenue tax (PRT) were announced by Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, on 2 August.

Designed to increase the government's share of profits from North Sea oil and gas, these changes would increase the rate of PRT from 45 per cent to 60 per cent from 1 January 1979; reduce the 'uplift' given for certain capital expenditure from 75 per cent to 35 per cent for qualifying expenditures under contracts made after 2 August, and reduce, from 1 January 1979, the 'oil allowance' from 1 million long tons a year to 0.5 million metric tonnes a year.

According to current estimates, this would increase the expected take from about £4 billion to £4.4 billion and afterwards by an additional £0.4 billion per year.

However, Mr Barnett stressed that these figures were subject to enormous uncertainties.

Outlining the background to the proposed changes, Mr Barnett said that the government now felt there was scope for increasing the public's share of North Sea profits. He pointed out that when the rates and allowances for PRT had been fixed at the beginning of 1975, a cautious approach had been deliberately adopted because of uncertainties. PRT had been set at no higher than 45 per cent and generous allowances and reliefs had been given.

'Now, however, though many uncertainties remain,' he said, 'we are in a position to take stock and it is apparent that companies are obtaining very large profits from the natural resources of the nation. We believe that the public share of these profits can and should be increased without endangering the exploitation of the less well-placed fields.'

Mr Barnett stressed that the government did not propose to alter the structure of the tax, or to remove the front-end loading of allowances which, together with the safeguard provisions, served to encourage the exploitation of marginal fields.

'But we do propose,' he said, 'that the rate of PRT should be increased from 45 per cent to 60 per cent for chargeable periods ending after 31 December 1978. We propose also that the 75 per cent uplift against PRT should be reduced to 35 per cent in respect of qualifying expenditure under contracts entered into after today (2 August), and we propose to halve the oil allowance as from 1 January 1979. There will be special transitional arrangments for uplift on expenditure under contracts already entered into.'

Provisions to give effect to these proposals would be included in next year's finance bill, Mr Barnett added. 'With PRT continuing to be deductible for corporation tax, we estimate that they will increase public take by about £150 million in the financial year 1979-80.'

Mr Barnett stressed that the government was conscious of what had been achieved on a basis of partnership between the public and private sectors. 'The right balance must be struck between the need to secure for the community a fair share of the benefits arising from the national resource which the North Sea represents,' he continued, 'and the need to leave the private sector with a rate of return which is fair in the light of the risks involved. The government is satisfied that the changes which I have just announced will achieve a better balance.'

Oil-spill unit to be set up

New contingency arrangements for dealing with oil pollution were announced in the commons by Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell, on 2 August.

Replying to a written parliamentary question, Mr Dell said that he had accepted the recommendations of reports by an inter-departmental working group and a steering group, following a critical re-examination of existing arrangements.

In the light of the experience of the *Amoco Cadiz* and the *Eleni V*, the review had found that there was a case for 'an enhancement of the existing capability to reduce the risk of pollution,' Mr Dell said. It confirmed that a number of services must inevitably continue to be involved in dealing with pollution at sea, including the Department of Trade's marine survey service, HM Coastguard, the Royal Navy and RAF. The steering group emphasised the important role played by the Ministry of Defence but recommended that it should not take over the lead role from the Department of Trade.

Having accepted the review's recommendation that a reinforcement of the department's organisation for dealing with pollution incidents, and an improvement in communications were necessary, the government intended to set up a new contingencies planning and operations unit as part of the department's marine division. This would have specific responsibilities for planning contingency arrangements and taking charge of operations to deal with pollution at sea. Proposals for an increase in the existing capability for dealing with pollution at sea with minimum harm to fisheries, would also be worked out, Mr Dell added, while a joint exercise would take place to establish how best to improve communications and take full advantage of the support facilities provided at the joint service maritime headquarters.

Mr Dell said that he had put in hand a detailed review of salvage arrangements, including the resources available, and that a review of liability and compensation would also be instituted.

Finally, he told the commons that a review of beach cleaning arrangements had also been set in hand by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, in conjunction with other departments concerned and local authority representatives.

'In considering the results of this work, he said, 'the government will also be glad to take account of the findings of the select committee on science and technology and the select committee on expenditure, who are inquiring into aspects of the problem, and I intend that the local authorities should be closely associated with the further work on all the issues of concern to them.' The government also hoped at a later stage to have advice from the Royal Commission on environmental pollution, he added.

Mr Dell, however, emphasised the report's warning that no increase in resources could provide a guarantee against coastal pollution in the event of a major oil spillage. But, he said, 'I can assure the house that every practical precaution will be taken.'

New off-shore area designated

An area of 3473 km² in the south western approaches has been designated by the government as being in the area with which the UK can exercise its right to the seabed and subsoil and its natural resources. This was announced by the Department of Energy on 2 August.

Holders of existing exploration licences will now be able to search for oil and gas in this area and the Secretary of State for Energy will also be able to grant petroleum production licences within it.

The newly designated area, which is adjacent to existing designated areas, is equivalent in extent to about 13 standard size blocks. Some of the blocks within this area are being offered for production licensing as part of the sixth round of offshore licensing also announced on 2 August.

Outlining details of the round, Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy said that this was yet another stage in the evolution of the government's offshore policy and provided a continuing major role for the private sector companies.

A total of 46 blocks are being put on offer together with a number of blocks west of the Shetlands. Otherwise the blocks are spread throughout the UK sector of the continental shelf, said Mr Benn.

The closing date for applications is noon on 20 November.

Channel shipping movements survey published

Results of a detailed marine traffic survey covering three days in June 1977 were published in a report, 'Study of marine traffic in the English channel', on 3 August.

The report, which confirms the interdependence of the various traffic separation schemes in the Channel, recommends the need for integrated traffic management from the western approaches to the southern North Sea, and stresses the need to take account of future oil exploration.

Replying to a parliamentary question, Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, said, 'The report shows that the volume of traffic observed in the Dover Strait in last summer's survey – about 300 through vessels per day – was similar to that in 1972. Since that time, the collision rate has considerably reduced. There were nearly 200 crossing vessels per day.

'Ships that contravened the provisions of the traffic separation scheme passing through the strait fell from 22 per day in 1972 to six per day in 1977, and have since fallen further'. More westbound traffic used the westbound lane in preference to the English inshore zone than before.'

The number of tankers carrying crude oil through the Channel averaged 38 per day, he added. While there was general compliance with routeing principles off Casquets, Ushant and the Lizard, the percentage of contravening vessels was considerably higher than is now the case in the Dover Strait. New surveillance measures were being planned with this in mind. The traffic pattern north of Cherbourg was complex, Mr Clinton Davis said, and a further survey of this area, including radar recording and ship identification, was recommended.

Oil pollution act: inspections and prosecutions in 1977

During 1977, Department of Trade surveyors carried out 1870 inspections of vessels under sections 18 and 21 of the Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971 to check compliance with the regulations on discharge of oil from ships.

A total of 58 prosecutions for unlawful discharges of oil were undertaken by harbour authorities for offences committed in ports and two by the Department of Trade for offences at sea. Fifty-six of the harbour authority prosecutions and both of the department's prosecutions resulted in convictions.

Nineteen of the convictions related to UK-registered ships and 32 to foreign ships; the remaining seven convictions concerned discharges from land installations. Fines imposed totalled over £76,000 (reduced to over £63,500 following an appeal in one case); out of the total of fines 10 awards amounting to nearly £8,000 were made towards the cost of clearing the pollution.

These figures appear in a report to parliament on 2 August by the Department of Trade.

The report notes that the 1969 amendments to the 1954 convention of prevention of pollution of the sea by oil have now come into force. The amendments prohibit the discharge of oil anywhere at sea except in accordance with certain strict conditions; they also require ships to keep detailed records of all operations involving oil carried out on board. UK ships have been required to observe the amendments since January 1973.

Temporary relief for Skytrain and standby passengers

Temporary arrangements to relieve the problems being experiencedbya growing number of Skytrain and standby passengers unable to get early flights to the United States are being introduced by the Civil Aviation Authority.

At present, there are no limitations on the number of Skytrain flights to New York, but the CAA recognises that Laker Airways does not have spare aircraft capacity. To ease the situation, the authority is prepared to allow Laker Airways to carry Skytrain passengers on its advance-booking charters for a limited period.

To ensure that no seat need remain empty

on scheduled services to the United States, the authority will also allow British Airways, TWA and Pan Am to bring forward, on individual routes, the quota allowances between now and the end of October for standby and budget seats previously allocated on a weekly basis.

Because of the exceptional circumstances, the authority would not object to airlines filling empty first class seats with standby passengers.

Additional charters

Additional charters to the United States might also be approved since there appear to be very few empty seats available on scheduled flights, especially to New York.

As a condition of these temporary arrangements, the CAA is requiring airlines to advertise daily the availability of standby seats on the following day for each route.

Second UK airline for London–LA service

A second British airline – in addition to British Airways – is to be designated to operate scheduled services on the London – Los Angeles route. The Secretary of State for Trade has dismissed an appeal by British Caledonian Airways against the Civil Aviation Authority's decision to grant applications by Laker Airways for a Skytrain-type service to Los Angeles.

Airports policy advisory committee to be set up

Advisory and consultative machinery to develop future airports policy is to be established, it was announced by Edmund Dell Secretary of State for Trade on 3 August.

Replying to a question in the commons Mr Dell said that, following consultation with all concerned, he had decided to establish an advisory committee on airports policy and a study group on south-east airports, whose immediate task would be to give detailed consideration to the long-term options for handling air transport demand in the London area, which were outlined in the white paper on airports policy (Cmnd 7084).

Both the committee and the study group would be chaired by a senior official of the Department of Trade, and would include representatives of government departments, the Civil Aviation Authority, the British Airports Authority, the airlines, local authority interests, the Trades Union Congress, the Air Transport Users Committee and the Noise Advisory Council. The composition of the two groups, he added, would therefore reflect the principal interests concerned with the airside and landside aspects of airport development.

It is expected that the first meetings will be held in September.

Mr Dell reminded the house that the white paper had emphasised the goverment's intention to continue to develop future airports policy in consultation with those concerned. In addition, it stated that, in view of the particular interests of local planning authorities, an appropriate formal structure would be discussed with local authority associations to ensure that their interests were taken into account in the evaluation and formulation of advice on the longer-term airport options.

The government intends, he said, that the work of the advisory committee and the study group should form the basis for consultations with a wide range of interests so that views of all concerned with, or affected by, proposed airport developments might be taken into account before decisions are reached.

Government Sales

Sales by auction

23 August 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location:
The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers:
Bartle & Son (Dept L), 1a Bridge Street, Tadcaster, N. Yorks (0937 835303)

Machine tools, motor spares, vehicles, tyres, wireless spares, clothing, footwear, blankets, carpets, furniture, household effects and many other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p.

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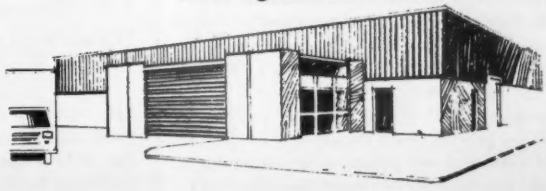


LBC to change brick delivery charges

From 1 January 1979 charges made by the London Brick Co Ltd (LBC) will reflect much more closely the actual cost of delivering fletton building bricks to customers.

This is the effect of undertakings given by the company to Roy Hattersley, prices secretary, aimed at remedying the single adverse finding of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report in June 1976 on the supply of building bricks in Great Britain. This finding was LBC's practice of overcharging for transport to customers relatively close to its works and undercharging those relatively far away. It concluded that this could operate against the public interest.

In a written reply to the Commons John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, explained that these undertakings were the outcome of consultation with the company carried out by the Director General of Fair Trading at the request of the secretary of state.

Merger proposals cleared

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Roy Hattersley has decided on the information before him, not to refer the proposed acquisition by James Finlay and Co Ltd of Seaforth Maritime Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the Fair Trading Act 1973.

He has also decided on the information at present before him, not to refer the proposed acquisition by Black and Edgington Ltd of Gailey Group Ltd to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the Fair Trading Act 1973.

VAT-inclusive pricing

All prices, whether advertised, displayed or quoted by any other means, must in future show the appropriate amount of VAT in money or state that they are VAT-inclusive.

This will be the effect of a draft order for which the government intends to seek parliamentary approval as soon as time allows.

It was announced on 3 August by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, in reply to a parliamentary question. He said he intended to introduce a draft order implementing the proposals made by the Director General of Fair Trading as modified by the consumer protection advisory committee (CPAC).

The effect of the order will be that all advertised, displayed or otherwise quoted prices, if not stated as VAT-inclusive, must show the amount of VAT in money terms (eg £100 + £8 VAT). The order would be general in its coverage of prices. Under the Fair Trading Act 1973, the powers to act following the report of the CPAC did not permit of an order for a simple comprehensive requirement for VAT-inclusive pricing.

It will be permissible for estimates and fixed-price quotations only (which are given to individual consumers in response to a request) to show a VAT-exclusive amount if it is accompanied by a clear indication of the rate of VAT to be added (eg £100 + 8% VAT).

There will be provision for disclaimers in long contracts and catalogues which might be affected by unforeseen changes in the relevant VAT rates.

Difficulties faced by those in the building trade in giving written estimates of work attracting varying VAT rates will be recognised.

The order, when made, may need to take account of the outcome of the current consultations on price display in cafes and restaurants (see story below).

There will be no further consultations on the provisions of the order but the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection is prepared to consider any comments that may be made.

British Gypsum increases should be reduced – Price Commission

Increases by British Gypsum of 15.2 per cent in charges for the carriage of plasterboard should be allowed in full. But other price rises wanted by the company should be reduced to an average of 6.5 per cent and no further increases should be made until the end of March next year.

The Price Commission believes these recommendations (in its report just published) strike a proper balance between the need to ensure that the company earns adequate profit to maintain its future investment programme and the need to protect the consumer in an area where competition is restricted.

The company had wanted to increase its prices by a weighted average of 8 per cent and had already been allowed an interim increase of 3.361 per cent under the profit safeguard regulations. While British Gypsum is an efficient and well-managed company, the report states, it is a clear and unchallengeable monopoly. It has been highly profitable at a time when the British construction industry has remained in recession.

The commission looked closely at the company's return on capital on a current cost accounting basis. In the three financial years to March 1973 the company's return on capital averaged over 14 per cent. With the decline in the market and the rise in costs after 1973, it fell to 5.1 per cent. The company more than doubled its prices in the period 1974 to 1976. As a result of these price increases and a growth in sales volume, the company increased its return on capital to between 10½ and 11 per cent on current cost accounting basis. It has maintained its return at that level over the last three years. The commission doubts that the company could have been able to maintain such a level of return if it had not had a monopoly.

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is considering the recommendations.

'Price Commission: British Gypsum Ltd – Increases in the prices of gypsum-related products' (HMSO £1.35).

Advertisements for 'Trade and Industry'

All advertisement inquiries and bookings should be addressed to the Advertisement Department at 13 Great James Street, London WC1, telephone 01-242 9478.

Royal docks stay open – on conditions

The government is prepared to provide up to £45 million towards severance costs for registered dockworkers and staff, and for other costs – on conditions.

The conditions are that the Port of London Authority sets in hand urgent measures, in co-operation with trades unions, to secure the most rapid possible run-down of surplus manpower, and on the understanding that no steps are taken towards the closure of the Royal Docks. There are no current proposals for the closure of the India and Millwall docks.

In a statement to parliament on 31 July, William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, said that he was informing the trades unions that the government had not endorsed closure of the Royal Docks on the understanding that the unions had promised active co-operation in an urgent examination of the size and structure of the workforce, and of working practice and industrial agreements in all areas to achieve cost savings, improvements in productivity and greater flexibility in the use of the workforce.

Review at intervals

He told the commons that both the authority and the unions were being told that he would review the position at intervals and monitor improvements in performance to ensure that progress justified continuing in that way. The provision of grant assistance would be contingent upon results.

Menus outside: price display proposals

The bill at the end of a meal will no longer come as quite so much of a shock if proposals contained in a new draft order, circulated to interested organisations, become law.

These new proposals will require the price of food and drink sold for consumption in cafés and restaurants to be clearly displayed outside the dining area.

Cost of meal

Announcing the proposals, Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said it was right that people should know before they went in to order a meal how much it was going to cost them. The order, Mr Maclennan said,

would be another major step in the government's price display programme.

The purpose of the programme, he said, was to make sure that prices were shown clearly so that the customer was not caught out and could make an informed choice, before he or she was committed to buy.

Mr Maclennan said the new order would apply to cafés, restaurants and public houses. The government would be happy to consider how this principle could be most effectively applied to the many practical situations of the catering industry: that was the purpose of the consultations. 'I hope to see the order come into effect in October.'

Union men join state boards

Seven trade unionists are among new members appointed by Secretary of State for Industry Eric Varley to two state corporations.

In a restructuring of the board of the British Steel Corporation six trades unionists and two civil servants are among new members announced by Mr Varley.

The new appointments are: F. Holloway (managing director, finance and supplies), G. H. Sambrook (managing director, commercial), A. White and J. McLaren (Iron and Steel Trades Confederation), C. Abrahams (Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, foundry section), N. Lee (General and Municipal Workers' Union), J. Tweddle (National Union of Blastfurnacemen), J. Lloyd (Transport and General Workers' Union), Sir John Buckley (chairman, Davy International), N. Monck (under-secretary, Treasury), and S. J. Gross (under-secretary, Department of Industry).

Sir Melvyn Rosser has been reappointed a part-time member of the board for a further two years.

John Chalmers, who has been appointed a part-time member of British Shipbuilders' board, is chief official of the Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers, Shipwrights, Blacksmiths and Structural Workers. He is also chairman of the shipbuilding committee of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and was a part-time member of the organising committee for British Shipbuilders from May 1976 until the formation of the corporation last year.

Industry minister Gerald Kaufman congratulates John Lloyd, one of six trade unionists newly appointed to the board of British Steel Corporation. Looking on are fellow trade union board members (from left) Alan White, James McLaren, Norman Lee and John Tweddle.

Departmental publications not sold through HMSO

Material issued by the Departments of Industry, Trade, Prices and Consumer Protection, and Energy; the Monopolies and Mergers Commission; the Office of Fair Trading, and the Price Commission, during July 1978.

Department of Industry

Concorde and Nationalisation Compensation Division

Secondary sonic boom report: an outline note by the Department of Industry. July 1978. 1978. 12 pages. Department of Trade, Press Office, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Electrical Technology Requirements Board

Finance for research and development in the electrical industry. 1978. 4 pages. Department of Industry, Electrical Technology Requirements Board, Room 402A, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN.

London and South East Regional Office

Chips with everything: microprocessor technology – its applications and implications. Proceedings of the Interlab Symposium held at the Londoner Hotel. 16 June 1977. 1977. 80 pages. Department of Industry, London and South East Regional Office, Room 580, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH.

Paper, Timber, Minerals, Metals and Miscellaneous Manufactures Division

Save and recycle: the national anti-waste programme. 1978. 1 folded sheet. National Anti-Waste Programme, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6RB.

Study of returnable and non-returnable containers: an interim report. 1978. 9 pages. Publicity Officer, Waste Management Advisory Council, Room 450, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6RB.

Research and Technology Requirements and Space Division

The use of Landsat imagery in relation to air survey imagery for terrain analysis in North West Queensland, Australia: ERTS follow-on programme study no. 2692B (29650). Final report by Monica M. Cole and E. Stuart Owen-Jones. 1977. 3 vols. Available on microfiche at £1.19 each volume from Department of Industry, Technology Reports Centre, Station Square House, St Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RF.

Research Establishments Management Division

Warren Spring Laboratory 1977. 1978. 32 pages. Department of Industry, Warren Spring Laboratory, PO Box 20, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2BX.

Technology Reports Centre

R & D abstracts. Vol. 37, no. 12, 15 June 1978.
R & D abstracts. Vol. 38, no. 1, 1 July 1978. Available on annual subscription of £42 from Department of Industry, Technology Reports Centre, Station Square House, St Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RF; free to government departments and certain other official bodies. Other editions are available for government and research association officials.

Department of Trade

Accidents Investigation Branch

AIB bulletin. No. 6/78, 22 June 1978. 13 pages.
AIB bulletin. No. 7/78, 28 July 1978. 13 pages. Department of Trade, Accidents Investigation Branch, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

British Overseas Trade Board

Export services handbook 1978. 1978. 148 pages. £2.50, plus 30p post and packing. **Hints to businessmen** series (price £1 plus 20p post and packing each):
Canada. 1978. 80 pages.
Liberia. 1978-79. 44 pages.
Peru. 1978-79. 56 pages.
All the above BOTB publications are available from Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.
Overseas Projects Board: report 1978. 1978. 8 pages. Department of Trade, Export Development Division, Overseas Project Group, Room 440, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Companies Division

Land and General Developments Ltd; Napet Securities Ltd: investigation under sections 164 and 172 of the Companies Act, 1948. Interim and final reports by Martin Nourse and Peter Grostete DuBuisson. 1978. 81 pages. £2.25. Department of Trade Library, Room LG37, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.
Rajawalla Produce Holdings Ltd: investigation under section 165(b) of the Companies Act, 1948. Report by Ronald Stanley and James Buttimer. 1978. 77 pages. £1.75. Department of Trade Library, Room LG 37, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Marine Division

HM Coastguard: Chief Inspector's annual report 1977. 1978. 121 pages. Department of Trade, Marine Division, Room 8/4, Sunley House, 90 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.
Merchant shipping notices
M 849: The carriage and securement of vehicles and cargo units in roll-on/roll-off ships. 1978. 8 pages.
M 850: Examinations in the year commencing 1 September 1979 for certificates of competency. 1978. 4 pages.
M 851: Fires involving oil fired appliances. 1978. 2 pages.
M 852: Use of diesel engine starting aids containing flammable mixtures. 1978. 1 page. Department of Trade, Marine Library, Sunley House, 90 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.

South East Asia Trade Advisory Group

Seatag bulletin. No. 6, July 1978. 32 pages. British Overseas Trade Board, South East Asia Trade Advisory Group Secretariat, Room 334, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

The government's prices policy. 1978. 7 pages. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Prices Policy Division, Room 2718, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.
Prices policy. A review of the secondary legislation on prices: the government's proposals. 1978. 13 pages. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Prices Policy Division, Room 2722, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.
A retailer's guide: changes in the law relating to the sale of goods. 1978. 7 pages. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Information Division, Room 2506, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.

Consumer Safety Unit

Consumer safety: a summary of recent developments for the use of trading standards officers, environmental health officers and public analysts. No. 16, June 1978. 12 pages. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Consumer Safety Unit, Room 1915, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.
Home accident surveillance system: the first 12 months' data. 1978. 36 pages. Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Consumer Safety Unit, Room 1915, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.

Departmental items published by HMSO are listed in the free catalogue 'Trade, industry, energy, prices and consumer protection' (sectional list no. 3) available on written application from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH or to personal callers at any government bookshop.

Degree day service: figures for July

Degree day figures for July, published by the Department of Energy, are shown in the table. This service is designed to help industry and commerce improve the efficiency with which space heating systems are used.

The figures are a record of the extent and length of time in a particular month that the external temperature fell below a base figure of 15.5 degrees C (60 degrees F). Because this affects the amount of fuel needed to provide a given level of space heating the figures can be used to check on the efficiency of heating systems. By comparing the amount of fuel used with the number of degree days in monthly periods of different years, energy managers and others can monitor the performance of heating plant and operate it more economically.

Detailed information

Detailed information about the system is contained in a free booklet *Degree Days* (No. 7 in the Fuel Efficiency series) available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ, tel. 01-211 3394. It explains the theory and practice of using the figures and contains a map showing the locations of the 17 Meteorological Office stations and the regions covered.

July degree days (base temperature 15.5 degrees C)

Region	Calculated average for July 1957-77	1977 July	1978 July
Thames valley	24	24	30
South east	44	42	46
Southern	41	36	44
South west	32	21	43
Severn Valley	31	27	37
Midland	47	48	59
West Pennines	41	39	60
North west	55	48	67
Borders	74	76	95
North east	49	53	61
East Pennines	40	47	66
East Anglia	44	42	54
West Scotland	61	49	73
East Scotland	70	67	84
North east Scotland	85	74	102
Wales	49	40	71
Northern Ireland	61	45	72

Particulars of dealers in securities and of unit trusts

The following changes have taken place in parts 1, 4 and 5 of the 1978 edition of 'Particulars of Dealers in Securities and of Unit Trusts' published in May under the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958:

PART 1 HOLDERS OF PRINCIPAL'S LICENCES

Name	Nationality or country of incorporation	Address
ADDITIONS Euromobiliare Ltd	Great Britain	Royex House, Aldermanbury Square, London EC2V 7LD
DELETIONS Nil		
CHANGE OF NAME Midland and Northern Securities Ltd		TO Midland and Northern Ltd
CHANGE OF ADDRESS J. Patmore and Partners		TO 43 Bridge Street, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8BN

PART 4 EXEMPTED DEALERS including TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS

Name	Nationality	Address
ADDITIONS Qatar National Bank SAQ	Qatar	Ormond House, 63 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4UB
CHANGES OF NAME Brown Harriman and International Banks Ltd Edward Bates and Sons Ltd Federated Trust and Finance Corporation Ltd		TO Banque Francaise De Credit International Ltd Allied Arab Bank Ltd Federated Trust Corporation Ltd

PART 5 AUTHORISED UNIT TRUST SCHEMES

Group and/or management company	Scheme	Trustee
ADDITIONS Cosmopolitan Fund Managers Ltd 56 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7JX	Cosmopolitan Income Fund	Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd, 27-32 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX
Kleinwort Benson Unit Managers Ltd 20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3P 3DB	Kleinwort Benson High Yield Fund	Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH

CHANGES

The following changes have taken place in the entry for Schlesinger Trust Mangers Ltd in the 'Scheme' column.

DELETE	AND REPLACE BY
Schlesinger American Exempt Fund	Schlesinger American Exempt Trust
Trident American Growth Fund	Schlesinger American Growth Trust
Trident Income Fund	Schlesinger Income Trust
Trident International Growth Fund	Schlesinger International Growth Trust
Trident Market Leaders Fund	Schlesinger Market Leaders Trust
Trident 'Nil Yield' Fund	Schlesinger 'Nil Yield' Trust
Trident UK Growth Fund	Schlesinger UK Growth Trust

Huge response to energy conservation scheme

There has been a huge response to the government's new energy conservation scheme launched on 13 June. Over 10 000 requests for guidance notes have been received and the first applications for financial assistance are coming in.

The Department of Energy has already paid out almost £65,000 in over 1350 grants under the energy survey scheme, and applications for the new extended survey – which provides a 50 per cent grant for approved projects – are beginning to flow in. Proposals range from a few hundred to a few thousand pounds.

The two-year energy conservation scheme, run by the Department of Industry, provides selective grants of 25 per cent of the cost of modernising or replacing boilers; 25 per cent for the insulation of premises, and grants to be negotiated for the improvement or replacement of combined heat and power systems. There are also 50 per cent grants for any associated consultancy work.

Benn gives go-ahead for channel electricity link

Energy secretary Tony Benn, has given the go-ahead to the Central Electricity Generating Board for a new cross-channel electricity link between Britain and France.

The link will have a capacity of 2000 MW – roughly the same as a large power station. Capital and running costs of the link will be shared equally between the CECB and Electricité de France (EdF) and the expected cost of the link to the CEGB will be £131 million.

The link will come into operation in two stages – the first 1000 MW in 1982 and the second in 1983. It should cut oil consumption at both French and British power stations and it will give Britain the opportunity to export coal-generated electricity to France.

By increasing the number of sources from which the CEGB can obtain electricity, the link will add to the security of power supplies. It will mean that the CEGB and EdF will be able to take advantage of marginal cost differences in their two generating systems to transfer electricity at a lower cost.

Fuel bill payment code study

A new, independent study of the code of practice on the payment of gas and electricity bills was announced by Dr John Cunningham, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, on 1 August.

The aim of this study will be to establish how well the code, which was introduced by the industries in December 1976, is providing guidance and safeguards from disconnection for people with genuine difficulty in paying their bills.

This new study will be in addition to the present, shorter-term review of the code, announced on 22 June, which is being carried out by the Department of Energy and other government departments concerned, the gas and electricity industries, their unions and their respective consumer councils. This review aims to adopt any changes to the code which might be agreed in time for next winter. The independent study will be longer-term.

Patents recorded 'licences of right'

Under section 46 of the Patents Act 1977 the Register was noted 'licences of right' in respect of the following patents on the date specified:

20 July 1978
1323044 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
A sub-synchronous converter cascade
1487711 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Thermal power plant
1489700 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Gas-cooled electrical machine
1489715 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
A machine having monitoring apparatus
1490157 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Improvements in or relating to synchronous electric machine stator windings
1495877 BBC Brown Boveri and Co Ltd
Combined gas/steam power-plant with combustible gas producer
1413448 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
Process for the separation of trioxane from aqueous solutions
1415630 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
Compositions for soil improvement and process for their production
1416840 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
Process for the production of amino plast
1418623 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
A process for preparing compositions for use in agriculture as soil improvers and fertilisers
1446244 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
Process for the preparation of fibre boards
1465165 Societa Italiana Resine S.I.R. S.p.A.
Improved process for the stabilisation of polyacetal resins
1313656 Martin Rodney Pearson
Improvements in or relating to tables, desks or benches
1319058 The British United Shoe Machinery Co Ltd
Improvements in or relating to shoe upper conforming machines
1479933 Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen
Swivel ventilators

21 July 1978
1487829 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Dynamic weighing using differential filtering
1493940 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Linearity correction in electrical transducers
1495277 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Method of dynamic weighing
1495278 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Compensation for weight-independent parameters in weighing
1498028 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Improvements relating to weighing apparatus
1498986 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Force-measuring apparatus
1498987 W. & T. Avery Ltd
Force-measuring apparatus
1244371 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Copying apparatus
1360829 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Improvements in and relating to searching for a desired microfilm image from a series of microfilm images.
1231377 Herbert Knaust (Deceased) and Ulrich von Kritter
Improvements in or relating to conveyors
1234005 Ford Motor Co Ltd
A die set
1329044 Concentric Pumps Ltd
Improvements relating to cooling fans for liquid-cooled internal combustion engines
1369888 Fuveau SA
New substituted amidines
1488955 John Lysaght (Australia) Ltd
Strip shape measuring device

Any person who claims that the proprietor of the patent is, and was at the time of entry, precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patent may, within three months after the making of the relevant entry, apply to the comptroller on patents forms 31/77 for cancellation of the entry.

I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

Dividend controls and reduction in ACT

Companies having declared a final (or second interim) net dividend which exhausted their maximum permissible entitlement under advance corporation tax (ACT) at 34/66ths may now declare a further net dividend bringing that entitlement up to the maximum permissible under ACT at 33/67ths.

No Treasury consent is required provided that this further dividend is clearly expressed as being related to the past complete year. Payment may then be made either immediately, or at some later date when a dividend is being paid for the current year.

The rate of ACT was reduced from 34/66ths to 33/67ths on 11 July with retrospective effect from 6 April 1978. This affects dividends paid on or after that date.

Companies not wishing to declare such a further dividend will need to seek Treasury consent in writing so that the 'gross' reference basis for the dividends of their current year, which will affect their entitlement to declare dividends while the controls are in force, is established at a rate of ACT of 34/66ths although the payments were made during the tax year 1978-79 for which the rate of ACT is now known to be 33/67ths.

Design Council officer for north east

The Design Council has appointed William Morrison its first advisory officer for the north-east of England. Based in Newcastle upon Tyne, he will be responsible for operating the Design Council's design advisory service throughout the north-eastern area south of the Scottish border.

His job is to visit organisations and companies with a view to seeking opportunities to improve the design of their products; to diagnose and define problem areas in design or design management so that external expertise can be recommended if appropriate; to supplement companies' own in-house design skills; and to inform companies of new technologies. He may use, in some cases, his own specialist knowledge or that of his colleagues to give design or technical advice on an informal basis and without liability.

Membership of the design advisory service is open to companies or divisions of larger organisations anywhere in the UK.

Car tax dodgers net £50m a year

Loss of revenue from evasion of vehicle excise duty is estimated to be between £50 million and £60 million a year, William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, told the Commons on 1 August.

Mr Rodgers said that a survey carried out by his department showed that about 2.5 per cent of cars parked on the street were unlicensed. Because the owners of unlicensed vehicles seemed less likely than others to leave them on the street the real figure was likely to be higher. Taking account also of the results of a study using the new central vehicle record, his department estimated that the real rate of evasion by car owners over the country as a whole might be between 7 per cent and 9 per cent.

Studies showed considerable variations between regions. An estimated 40 per cent of those evading payment of the duty did so for periods of four months or less. Compared with some £730 million a year paid by car owners at current rates of duty, the loss of revenue resulting from evasion is estimated to be about £50 million to £60 million.

Mr Rodgers said that his department had planned to undertake as soon as possible a survey of evasion by goods vehicles which could not be covered in the street survey of cars. The indications were that the rate of evasion might be slightly higher than that for cars.

Thames Water charges: modified increase

Thames Water Authority has decided not to implement a 9.5 per cent price increase originally sought for 1978-79 but to go ahead with a modified increase (7.2 per cent) allowed under price code safeguard regulations.

Prices secretary Roy Hattersley and environment secretary Peter Shore have noted that there should be no restriction on the 9.5 per cent proposed increase charges for water services because provisions in the 1976-79 budget on which the increases were based were 'reasonable'.

Their decision followed discussions with Thames Water Authority and the National Water Council resulting from the Price Commission report on the authority's water, sewage and environmental services.

Other observations made by the secretaries of state concern the role of the water industry within the public sector, surpluses, internal financing of investment, depreciation, performance indicators, metering, charging policy generally, and instalment payments.

Technology news

Shoes and satellites in £125m R&D spend

Topics covered by £125 million spent in 1977/78 by the Department of Industry on research and development were shoes and satellites, china and computer-aided design and engineering, buoys and biological reference materials, high-temperature alloys, and holography. These are just a few of the wide range of topics funded by the department and reviewed in its annual report on research and development published on 3 August.

This year's report covers work supported through the R&D requirements boards and other R&D programmes that are funded directly, such as space and civil aviation technology. The department's total expenditure on R&D in 1977-78 was £0.8 million more than in 1976/77, with industry the major recipient at £48 million. Expenditure in 1978/79 is expected to increase to £137 million, with industry receiving £59 million. Spending ranged from £1.2 million handled by the garment and allied industries requirements board to £35 million devoted to space technology, mainly in co-operative ventures through the European Space Agency.

The requirements boards have become more involved with the government's Industrial Strategy through working with the National Economic Development Council's sector working parties, to ensure that work that they sponsor is in keeping with needs identified by these working parties. They are increasingly encouraging industry to undertake R&D projects on a joint funding basis, which ensures that there is minimum delay before results are incorporated into products and processes. The boards are currently looking for more industrial projects to support in this way. There is also considerable attention given to the wider use of existing technology through information and technology transfer programmes.

Environmental matters play a part in many of the boards' activities. The ship and marine technology requirements board supports work at the department's Warren Spring Laboratory for pollution control at sea. Its 'Springsweep' method for oil collection after a spill proved very effective during the Ekofisk incident. The chemicals and minerals requirements board's new programmes show a concern for the environment as well as resource conservation through waste disposal, reclamation and energy-saving projects.

They include tyre pyrolysis; reclamation and recyling of drink cans and development of catalysts to control gaseous pollutants. The catalyst developed at Harwell to deal with motor-vehicle exhaust has had 50 000 mile durability trials by Volkswagen and several other manufacturers are running evaluation programmes. The catalysts programme also has important implications for process chemistry.

The electrical technology requirements board is supporting the development of linear motors, very large low-speed dc motors, and the use of semi-conductor devices to control power equipment – all with significant industrial application potential. A new high fault current limiter device which uses existing superconducting technology is expected to find a high demand because of its advantages over present current limiters. The engineering materials requirements board is supporting programmes which lead to conservation of materials and energy, provide substitutes for materials in decreasing supply or make greater use of indigenous materials.

Participation in the European Space Agency's application programmes is helping UK industry to build and maintain a technological competence in satellite engineering, which is leading to a significant sales potential as the demand for communications facilities grows.

'Research and development requirements and programmes report 1977/78' is available free from the Department of Industry's Technology Library, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, tel. 01-211 5221.

R&D requirements boards

The main tasks of the Department of Industry's research and development requirements boards are to determine, subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State for Industry, the objectives, composition and balance of R&D funded by the department; to further the practical application of technology; and to advise the secretary of state on other matters relating to science and technology within the board's fields of interest.

The boards take their decisions against a general background of strategic thinking on R&D in their respective industries, including the findings of the National Economic Development Council's sector working parties involved in the government's Industrial Strategy programme. They also give appropriate weight to broader issues of importance such as pollution, energy conservation and safety.

The requirements boards and the equivalent bodies that control R&D expenditure in aerospace are supporting projects aimed directly at encouraging industry to adopt improved techniques and practices in their design and manufacturing operations. Such technology transfer expenditure will increase to some £7.6 million in 1978/79.

Inquiries for further information or proposals for R&D projects which the boards might support should be addressed to the appropriate board as in the following list at the Department of Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN, or to the following named individuals:

General inquiries, Mr C. J. Whapham, tel. 01-211 5882

Chemicals and minerals, Dr D. C. Milner, tel. 01-211 4419

Civil aircraft technology, Mr R. A. Cairns, tel. 01-211 7208

Computers, systems and electronics, Mr C. W. Seager, tel. 01-212 8056

Engineering materials, Dr L. M. T. Hopkin, tel. 01-211 3560

Garment and allied industries, Dr D. I. Packham, tel. 01-211 6380

Mechanical engineering and machine tools, Mr J. D. Summerfield, tel. 01-211 4165

Metrology and standards, Mr J. W. McHugo, tel. 01-211 4557

Ship and marine technology, Dr P. L. Smith, tel. 01-211 5841

Space technology, Mr T. Houston, tel. 01-211 5727

Chief Scientist's requirements boards (miscellaneous R&D programmes), Dr D. I. Packham, tel. 01-211 6380.

NRDC invests in continuous-wear contact lenses . . .

Development and testing of a new continuous-wear soft contact lens is to be carried out by R. Kelvin Watson Ltd in a joint venture with the National Research Development Corporation. Representing 50 per cent of the development costs, £400,000 is being invested by the corporation.

Soft lenses are more comfortable to wear than the traditional hard ones and have been on the market for several years. However, these are daily-wear lenses and, so far, continuous-wear lenses have had only limited application. A continuous-wear lens would overcome the major disadvantage of all contact lenses – the need to remove them at night.

High oxygen permeability is an essential factor in selecting a material suitable for lenses and the polymer which is to be used in this new development programme is one which results from research originally funded by the corporation at Aston University under the direction

of Dr B. Tighe who is now working in conjunction with Dr H. Gee of R. Kelvin Watson Ltd.

The new material is clear and colourless, absorbs water in a predictable way and has a very high water content in its hydrated state. This means that oxygen can pass easily through the lens. In addition, lenses made of this material are much stronger and more resistant to tear than currently available high-water-content soft lenses from other manufacturers. Lenses based on the new polymer are now under test.

. . . and backs production of utility vehicle

The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) is to provide up to £110,000 towards the costs of development and production of a new utility vehicle by Manchester Garages Ltd, a prominent Ford main dealer. A prototype unit has been undergoing trials in the past few months, and production of a pilot batch of 50 vehicles is about to begin at the Truck Centre recently opened by Manchester Garages at Gorton Lane, Manchester.

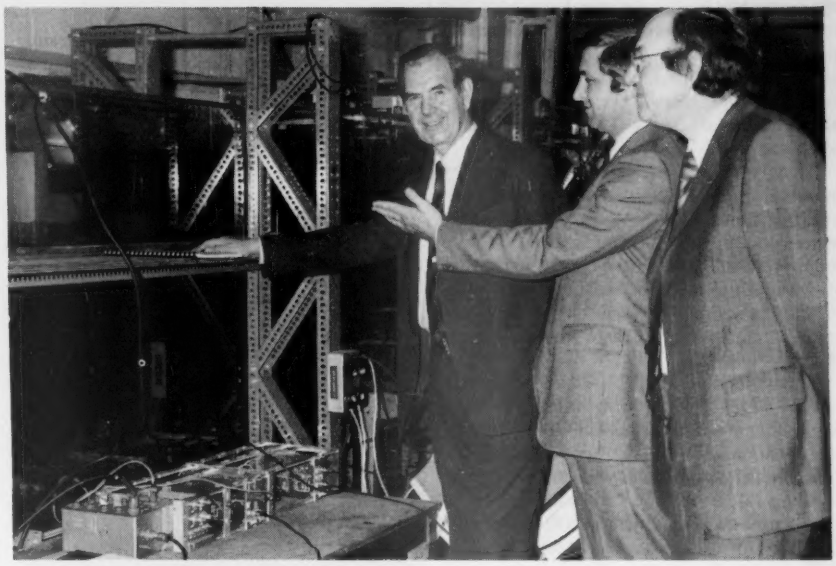
The aim is to produce a low-priced vehicle, built using many standard Ford Escort mechanical components, that will be cheap to run and simple to maintain. A novel design of rear-axle differential lock will provide a rough-terrain performance to rival that of a four-wheel drive vehicle while retaining the economy and simplicity inherent in driving only two rear wheels. The vehicle will be equipped with a second reduction gearbox and winch.

The open body will be constructed as a tubular-steel frame to which blow-moulded aluminium panels are bolted. Convertible seating will accommodate up to seven passengers or fold flat to form an unobstructed load platform.

As well as offering economical transport for off-road use in the United Kingdom and Europe, it is expected that the uncomplicated but rugged engineering of the vehicle will find favour in the developing countries where roads are poor and garages are few and far between.

Manchester Garages' utility vehicle provides a rough-terrain performance to rival that of four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Energy minister sees NEL's work on wave power



Alex Eadie (left), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, discussing wave power with Bob Meir and Norman Frost (right) of the Department of Industry's National Engineering Laboratory. During his visit to the laboratory on 28 July, Mr Eadie saw the NEL version of an oscillating water column device which is being developed for his department. The device would transfer power from waves to air under pressure to turn turbines for the generation of electricity.

First board meeting completes conversion of NCC

Conversion of the National Computing Centre into an independent non-profit distributing company was completed with the first meeting of its board of directors on 26 July. The centre's more independent role is marked by the transition from being supported by grant-in-aid from the Department of Industry to self-supporting project-funding.

NCC's board, under the chairmanship of Professor James Merriman, includes Anthony Cleaver of IBM and Peter Hall of ICL representing computer equipment manufacturers.

Gerald Kaufman (right), Minister of State, Department of Industry, examines a microprocessor used in the Nascom 1 microcomputer during his visit to the NCC on 28 July. With him is David Firnberg, director of the centre.

Computer users are represented on the board by Alan Smith, of Tootal Ltd, Michael O'Shea of Morganite Electrical Carbon Ltd, John Porter of Amery Parkes and Co, and Bob Jenkinson of Chloride Europe Ltd. PA Management Consultants Ltd's Cameron Low represents the computer service industry. David Firnberg, director of the centre, is a board member

together with two directors appointed by the Secretary of State for Industry, two other executive directors and two directors elected by the staff of the centre.

From its inception in 1966 to the present day the centre has acquired a membership of 1500 drawn from hardware manufacturers, computer service industry and computer users. Its aim is to promote an increased and more effective use of computers in every field of national and commercial activity. The centre has a staff of 220.

Since April 1977, Department of Industry funding, previously by grant, has been awarded for specific projects by the department's computers, systems and electronics requirements board. These cover the transfer of computing methods and technology to industry and include work on security and privacy, methods, databases and communications.

Income for the year 1977-78 was £2.7 million of which 37 per cent came from the requirements board, 22 per cent from training and consultancy work, 15 per cent from the sale of software products, 9.5 per cent from sales of publications and information services, 5 per cent from membership subscriptions and 11.5 per cent from other contracts.

The centre administers the Department of Industry's software products scheme which provides 50 per cent cost-sharing of the development and first year's marketing of software packages. To attract contracts for custom-built software, the centre has launched the Interlock project. Work is commissioned abroad, particularly in the United States, and carried out in the UK by British computing service companies.

NCC has a comprehensive education programme which includes the selling of training packages to colleges and universities as well as the running of a wide variety of courses in Manchester and its regional offices. Its 'threshold' scheme, which trains unemployed school-leavers in programming and computer operating using a grant of £1 million from the Manpower Services Commission, has been notably successful.

The National Computing Centre Ltd
Oxford Road
Manchester M1 7ED
Tel. 061-228 6333, telex 668962

REGIONAL OFFICES

London and S East
11 New Fetter Lane
London EC4A 1PU
Tel 01-353 4875

Midlands
Prudential Buildings
St Philip's Place, Colmore Row
Birmingham
Tel. 021-236 6283

North and N Wales
Oxford Road
Manchester M1 7ED
Tel. 061-228 6333, telex 668962

N Ireland
117 Lisburn Road
Belfast BT9 7BP
Tel. 0232 668770

Scotland
Anderston House
2nd Floor, 389 Argyle Street
Glasgow G2 8LR
Tel. 041-204 1101

South West and S Wales
Royal Exchange Building
6th Floor, 41 Corn Street
Bristol BS1 1HG
Tel. 0272 27077

High-field NMR provided for UK chemists

A new high-field nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy facility is to be set up at Edinburgh University. A Science Research Council grant of £416,000, over the period of October 1978 to September 1982, will support the provision and running costs of the first 360 MHz Fourier transform NMR service for council-supported research workers in UK universities and colleges.

The service will be operated on the council's behalf by the department of chemistry at Edinburgh where, since 1973, a 100 MHz service to chemists in other Scottish universities has been provided. The existing service will be continued as a back up for the national service at 360 MHz. Under the terms of the grant 80 per cent of the experimental time will be made available for the national service, the remaining 20 per cent to be used by chemists at Edinburgh University.

A Brüker WH 360 spectrometer will be provided and will be the first of its type to be placed in a university. Five further instruments are located in European industrial laboratories and four in the United States.

The new facility at Edinburgh marks a further stage in the development of NMR spectroscopy – which first gained importance in the 1960s and has since become an essential technique in the exact analysis of the molecular structure of materials important in chemistry and biochemistry. For example, determination of structures of certain antibiotics which took years to achieve before the advent of NMR may now be accomplished in days.

Queen's awards applications invited

Applications are invited from companies which would like to be considered for the Queen's award for technology for 1979.

The main qualifications are that companies should be UK-based and have made outstanding achievements in technology. The closing date for return of applications is 31 October 1978.

Application forms are available from the Secretary, Queen's Awards Office, Williams National House, 11/13 Holburn Viaduct, London EC1A 1EL, tel. 01-222 2277.

Computer controlled 'Smartie' probes hostile undersea environments

A small unmanned and highly controllable submersible, armed with a battery of television cameras. This is 'Smartie' (submarine automatic remote television inspection equipment), developed by Maritime Unit Technology Ltd, to provide undersea inspection in the poor visibility and hostile environments of the world's oceans. The craft has the shape of a thick disc about 1 m diameter with an elliptical cross section giving good underwater mobility. It is driven by directional water jets from an electrically powered pump and has no propellers and can operate to a depth of 300 m. The craft is controlled by its own microcomputer interpreting manual control signals from a console on the surface. It is supplied with power and control signals by an unbilical cable only 5 mm in diameter with video signals sent over the same cable in the opposite direction. In low visibility the on-board computer can accept input from the craft's magnetic compass and gyro and can project an artificial navigation 'target' that the operator can follow on his screen, even though the craft may be passing through an area of zero visibility. Smartie can be held automatically in any position in fast currents. The operator pushes a 'hold' button and the computer compensates for disturbing forces keeping the vehicle in the required position. A similar technique is used to maintain a steady course at speed.

New products

Freepost reader service

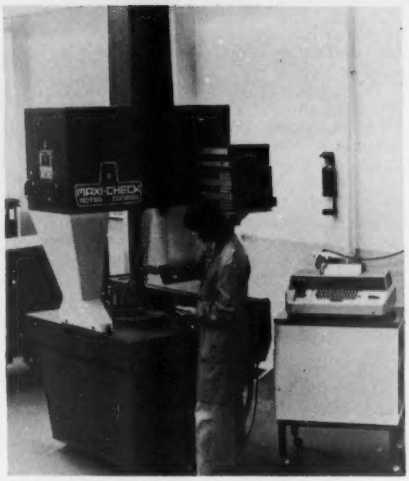
For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Low-cost measurement of co-ordinates

A bridge-type co-ordinate measuring machine has been developed by its British makers, Notsa Engineering Co Ltd, specifically for small engineering concerns which us numerically controlled (nc) machine tools but find existing fast quality-control equipment to be beyond their financial means.

With its measuring capacity of 510 mm in the x, y and z-axes, the 'Maxi-check half-metre' can accommodate a large variety of typical engineering components. The equipment is said to give time savings of 80 to 90 per cent over traditional inspection methods thus greatly reducing machine-tool down times, particularly when first articles of a production run are being checked.

Accuracy is claimed to be within ± 0.005 mm over the entire measuring space with a repeatability of ± 0.0025 mm. The three-axis digital read-out can be switched back and forth between metric and imperial measurements and incorporates zero re-set and data insert facilities. A remote-control handbox can be used to print out the x, y, and z-co-ordinates on a teletyping unit, display data visually on a screen or feed measurements into a calculator.



Inspection to ±0.005 mm on Notsa's 'Maxi-check'.

Apart from the basic manually operated machine, there are calculator-assisted, motorised or computer nc options that may be fitted retrospectively as a customer gradually needs more sophisticated inspection equipment.

Further information: circle 118.

High buoyancy 'dugout' makes cheap cargo carrier

A new glass-fibre boat, developed by Shetland Boats Ltd for use on inland waterways and harbour areas, demonstrates that despite 2 tonnes of cargo and three adults aboard it remains stable and has ample free-board. Called the Shetland Dugout, this inexpensive and convenient carrier can take a variety of cargoes from bricks, aggregate and cement to bulk liquids such as these drums of drinking water. Alternatively, it can transport 12 adults. The Dugout owes its buoyancy to 0.74 m³ of closed cell polyurethane foam bonded into the floor and round the top of the gull wing hull. The manufacturers claim that it is very robust and has a life of at least five years' continuous heavy use. The craft is 5.70 m long, 2.43 m wide and weighs 363 kg. It takes 15 to 40 hp capacity single or twin longshaft outboard engines that make it highly manoeuvrable in confined waters.

Further information: circle 119.

Fast access recorder

A compact cassette recorder-reproducer from Racal-Thermionic Ltd provides fast access to recorded information and is therefore particularly suitable for use in telecommunications centres where an immediate replay of emergency messages, received by telephone or radio, may be required to clarify garbled words.

Each message received is identified by a number displayed on a remote control unit and is monitored by a search control track. Facilities are provided to enable an operator to replay immediately a message just received and to improve its clarity by using a control that can provide a −50 per cent to +20 per cent variation in the replay speed.

Search for a previously recorded message is performed by means of the search control track in conjunction with the message number indicator. The tape is then automatically rewound to the start of the message and replayed. If any part of the replay is not clearly understood, the operator can obtain a repeat without returning to the beginning of the particular message.

The tape transport and electronic unit can contain up to four channels, each operated from a separate operator console so the each operator controls a single tape transport. A three-channel version of the callstore can be supplied for applications where, for instance, a single operator records telephone and radio messages on separate channels and reference time signals on the third.

Further information: circle 120.

Freezing facilitates scrap reclamation

The first full-scale cryogenic scrap reclamation plant in the UK is to be installed by BOC Ltd at Mayer Newman and Co Ltd of Erith, Kent. Using the intense cold of liquid nitrogen, at minus 196 °C, to embrittle materials the plant enables the separation and subsequent reclamation of composite scrap.

This order reflects the growing interest in the use of cryogenics in the reclamation industry. Recent BOC developments improving the economic performance of freezing units, together with improved margins for recycled materials are making the use of cryogenic reclamation increasingly profitable.

The new installation at Mayer Newman's Erith site will be using a 15 m long rotary tunnel to reclaim steel braced tyres and other applications are anticipated. Trials on the rotary tunnel at BOC's demonstration facility in Derby have proved the technical viability of scrap fragmenting, amongst other materials, electric cable, bottle tops, tin cans and electric motors.

Further information: circle 121.

Parliament

Monday, 31 July

Airline tariffs

Robin F. Cook (Edinburgh Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would seek powers to enable his department to scrutinise airline tariffs in the interests of the consumer.

Mr Maclennan replied that charges for domestic airline flights were scrutinised by the Civil Aviation Authority and were subject to the ultimate control of the Secretary of State for Trade through the appeals procedure. Under section 3 of the 1971 Civil Aviation Act the authority had a duty to further the reasonable interests of users of air transport services. Although there were no statutory provision for the air transport users committe to be consulted on tariff changes it was open to them to make representations on behalf of the consumer. Charges for international flights were determined by international agreement and the interests of consumers were taken into account, together with other relevant factors.

Airline users' committee

Tom Ellis (Wrexham) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what discussions he had had with the chairman of the airline users' committee about the representation of consumer interests.

Mr Maclennan said that Sir Archibald Hope, the new chairman of the air transport users' committee was appointed by the Civil Aviation Authority last November. He met him shortly after his appointment to discuss his committee's role in representing the consumer interest. He hoped to meet him again in the near future to consider how effective the implementation of the committee's broader terms of reference had proved.

Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what proposals he had to ensure more effective protection for consumers of airline services.

Mr Maclennan said that the secretary of state had noted the new terms of reference which the Civil Aviation Authority had given to the air transport users committee with effect from 1 April 1978. These were:

1 The committee will be called the Air Transport Users' Committee (AUC)

2 The committee's terms of reference would be to make reports and recommendations to the Civil Aviation Authority for furthering the interests of air transport users including the investigation of complaints against the suppliers of air transport services; to co-operate with any airport consultative committees which were charged by airport proprietors with furthering the interests of air transport users inside their airports.

3 The committee would consist of not more than 20 and not fewer than 12 members, including a chairman and deputy chairman. All appointments would be made by the Civil Aviation Authority board on the advice of the AUC and of the CAA.

4 No employee of the CAA may be a member of the AUC.

5 Members would be appointed as individuals and not as delegates of any particular interest group. They should represent as wide a range as possible of personal experience as users of air transport services.

6 Appointments would normally be for terms of three years.

7 The work of the committee would be supported by an annual grant from the CAA.

The government would be interested to receive indications as to how effective these new arrangements were proving in protecting the interests of air transport users.

Airline and airport services

John Roper (Farnworth) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would invite the National Consumer Council to make a study of the adequacy and efficiency of consumer representation to the authorities responsible for airline and airport services.

Mr Maclennan replied that although the National Consumer Council had not made a separate study of this question, its first report 'Consumers and the nationalised industries', which was published in August 1976, following a reference by the secretary of state, did make certain recommendations about improving consumer representation in the air transport industry. The department naturally welcomed and studied with interest any further representations the NCC might care to make.

Price Commission investigations

Michael Neubert (Romford) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would publish a list of: a) companies' prices which had been restricted, and for how long and by how much, both during and after an investigation under the Price Commission Act 1977; b) companies who had been allowed a full interim price increase during an investigation under the Price Commission Act 1977; and what had been the percentage increase; c) companies whose prices had been partly restricted during an investigation under the Price Commission Act 1977, for how long and by what amount; d) companies whose prices had been wholly restricted during an investigation under the Price Commission Act 1977 and by what amount.

Mr Maclennan replied that between August 1977 and June 1978 the Price Commission initiated 24 investigations under sections 4 and 5 of the Price Commission Act 1977. A further three investigations were initiated in July. Twenty-one investigations had now been completed. During an investigation of a price increase under section 4, the increase proposed was automatically restricted unless a variation notice permitting an interim increase (whether as required by the safeguard regulations or at the commission's discretion) was given by the commission. A variation notice may be given at any time during an investigation but a decision was usually taken within the first two or three weeks. The following table showed interim increases permitted under variation notices to enterprises subject to investigations under section 4 up to the end of July:

Enterprise	Price increase notified (per cent)	Interim increase (per cent)
Metal Box Ltd.	10.5	9.81
Area electricity boards in England and Wales	0.030-0.104 pence per kilowatt hour	As notified
Barclays Bank Ltd.	154.42	Nil
Fisons Ltd.	1.4-29.9	Maximum of 15.68
UG Glass Containers Ltd.	9.8	7.22
Tate and Lyle Refineries Ltd.	£5.20 per tonne	£5.20 per tonne [1]
British Railways Board:		
passenger fares	14.6	14.5
miscellaneous charges	36.1	13.8
The Ever Ready Co (Great Britain) Ltd.	7.0	Nil
Cadbury Schweppes Foods Ltd.	7.42	7.42
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	£3.50 per tonne	£2.00 per tonne
Weetabix Ltd		
cereal products	8.74	6.36
muesli products	6.51	6.46
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd		
beer	7.42	7.42
food, drink, accommodation	7.34	6.85
Southalls (Birmingham) Ltd	4.31	1.03
IPC Magazines Ltd	2.88	Nil
Thames Water Authority	9.5	7.2
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd		
Portland cement	10	7.09 [2]
special cement	9.21	8.15 [2]
South of Scotland Electricity Board	7.6	7.6
London Transport Executive:		
bus fares	9.2	9.2
train fares	10.8	10.8
CPC (United Kingdom) Ltd	7.34	7.34
British Gypsum Ltd	8	3.36
Trust Houses Forte Hotels Ltd	5.28	2.08
Lever Brothers Ltd	4.8	4.8
Royal Doulton Tableware Ltd	9.3	7.3
Procter and Gamble Ltd	5.5	Nil
Imperial Tobacco Ltd	1.92	Nil [3]

Notes [1] Interim increase granted after two months. [2] Two variation notices given. The figure shown is the cumulative increase allowed. [3] No application for an interim increase yet received.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Excluding the minor restrictions on British Rail fares and charges, 15 enterprises were subject to price restrictions during investigations between August 1977 and June 1978. In nine cases, prices had been held or restricted following investigations. In one case (The Ever Ready Company (Great Britain) Ltd) the restriction was imposed by order. The price increase was restricted to a maximum of 2 per cent until 30 August 1978.

In the following cases an undertaking to restrict prices had been given by the enterprises concerned to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection:

Enterprise	Undertaking given
Fisons Ltd garden products	No price to be increased by more than 20 per cent before 7 September 1978
ICI Ltd soda ash	No further price increase to be notified before 1 July 1978
Southalls (Birmingham) Ltd Tampons	No increase of more than 3.17 per cent before 23 December 1978
IPC Magazines Ltd magazine cover prices	No increase in cover prices before 31 July 1978
Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd (now Blue Circle Industries Ltd) Portland cement	No increase in 'basing point prices' by more than 7.09 per cent before 18 January 1979

In the following cases companies had given assurances, recorded in the Price Commission's reports, that certain prices would be held for various periods unless major or unexpected cost increases were incurred: Metal Box Ltd, UG Glass Containers Ltd, Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd.

Public appointments

Sir John Langford-Holt (Shrewsbury) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was the total number of paid public appointments made by him in each of the last four years as recorded in the Directory of Paid Public Appointments made by ministers; and what was the total cost to the public purse of these appointments in each of these years.

Mr Hattersley gave the following reply:

	Number of paid appointments or re-appointments	Gross cost of salaries/fees paid in respect of such appointments from public funds during the 4-year period in question (£)
1974/75	29	149,100
1975/76	46	197,400
1976/77	35	227,700
1977/78	42	279,100

Petrol prices

J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what had been the average selling price of four-star petrol in each of the past four years; and if he would express the figures as an index taking 1973 as 100.

Mr Maclennan said that figures were not available for four-star petrol alone but estimated average prices of premium petrol (ie four-star and five-star) for the past four years were as follows:

	1974	1975	1976	1977
Price per gallon	53.5p	71.5p	74.2p	79.3p

Taking 1973 as 100 the above figures expressed as an index are:

1974	1975	1976	1977
143.8	192.2	199.5	213.2

Butter prices

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked about an investigation to ascertain how and why the price of butter had risen from 46p a pound a few weeks ago to 59p a pound; and what action was proposed to see that the price of food showed reduction in prices at retail levels.

Mr Maclennan answered that price information collected for the RPI suggested that prices had risen on average by much less than the questioner's example suggested. Home produced butter, for example, had this year risen by less than half the amount suggested. Retail butter prices had increased as a result of a combination of the effects of the final transitional step to EEC prices, the devaluation of the green pound, the increase in CAP farm support prices agreed at this year's price-fixing and reductions in the EEC subsidy. A investigation was therefore unnecessary. Butter prices were subject to maximum price control under the Prices Act 1974.

Petrol and diesel fuel

Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what was the cost of: (a) a gallon of petrol and (b) a gallon of diesel fuel in June 1970 and February 1974; and what it is currently.

Mr Maclennan replied that typical prices for petrol and diesel fuel for the dates requested were given below:

	2-Star petrol per gallon	4-Star petrol per gallon	Derv per gallon
June 1970	31p	32.5p	32p
February 1974:			
To 11 Feb	40.5p	42.0p	41.5p
From 12 Feb	48.5p	50.0p	49.5p
June 1978	74.5p	76.5p [1]	84.5p

[1] Includes 5-Star petrol.

Distribution of jeans

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what consultations he has had with (a) jeans' manufacturers and (b) with representatives of small businesses before referring to the Price Commission the distribution of jeans; and for what purpose he referred to the Price Commission for a survey on the distribution of jeans.

Mr Maclennan said that the secretary of state issued a direction to the Price Commission on 20 June requiring it to examine and report to him on prices, costs and margins in the distribution of jeans. This direction was made against a background of concern at wide variations in the price and quality of jeans. The secretary of state did not normally consult bodies outside government before the issue of a direction, but did so extensively following publication of a Price Commission report.

Tyre imports

John Watkinson (West Gloucestershire) asked what was the amount of tyres that were imported into the United Kingdom in 1977, 1976 and 1975; and which five countries were the principal exporters of tyres to the United Kingdom; and what quantities they exported in 1977, 1976 and 1975.

Mr Meacher said that following was the information for imports of tyres of the kind used on motor vehicles:

NEW TYRES FOR MOTOR CARS, LORRIES, OMNIBUSES AND OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES — Numbers imported

	1975	1976	1977
Total	4,321	5,160	6,551
Of which consigned from:			
Irish Republic	1,052	1,437	1,497
France	522	676	1,225
FR of Germany	503	817	1,051
GDR	248	375	518
Italy	292	305	492

Note: numbers (in thousands) or reconditioned tyres in 1977 and of reconditioned tyres of the kind used on motor vehicles in 1975 and 1976 were as follows:

1975	1976	1977
131	162	198

Source: UK Overseas Trade Statistics, SITC(R) 629.1

Bankruptcies and liquidations

George Gardiner (Reigate) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would list the total number of personal bankruptcies, voluntary company liquidations and compulsory company liquidations in the following periods: (a) July 1945 to October 1951, (b) October 1951 to October 1964, (c) October 1964 to June 1970, (d) June 1970 to February 1974 and (e) February 1974 to the latest available date.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the figures which related to England and Wales were:

	Bankruptcies [1]	Company liquidations [2] Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary [4]	Members' voluntary [3 4]
July 1945–October 1951	7 550	1 830	2 440	7 300
October 1951–October 1964	36 520	6 335	13 310	30 630
October 1964–June 1970	23 749	6 187	12 476	31 269
June 1970–February 1974	16 329	4 369	7 368	16 274
February 1974–March 1978	24 860	9 086	12 942	15 900

Notes: [1] Receiving and administration orders made. [2] The figures are for liquidations begun during each year. [3] In these cases, the company is not insolvent. [4] Figures for years before 1948 are not available. In the absence of readily available monthly or quarterly data for the earlier years, the figures for the first two periods were estimated rather than actual figures.

Goods from Portugal

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would make a statement about the present situation relating to an agreement and referendum negotiated by the EEC commission with Portugal which for two group I products exceeded the global ceilings.

Mr Meacher replied that the UK lifted its reserve on this agreement at the EEC council of ministers on 25 July. Following further negotiations between the commission and the Portuguese authorities, the agreement now provided for a reduction of 50 tonnes in the increases in the UK ceilings for cotton yarn and synthetic cloth below the level initially reported by the commission. The final agreement would involve an increase of 68 tonnes in the UK ceilings for cotton yarn and 454 tonnes in the UK ceilings for synthetic cloth; there was an offsetting reduction of 421 tonnes in the ceiling for cotton cloth. The agreement also provides for an increase of 300 tonnes in the UK quota for cordage. At the same meeting satisfactory assurances were received from the commission regarding rapid action to be taken in respect of unrestrained suppliers where their exports to the community or to an individual member state threatened to exceed the global ceilings or to cause market disruption.

Imports from Japan

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what percentage of Great Britain's total imports had come from Japan in each of the last five years.

Mr Meacher replied that imports from Japan expressed as a percentage of total United Kingdom imports were as follows:

1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
2.80	2.45	2.79	2.55	2.91

Textiles and the EEC

Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would make a statment on the discussion in the council of ministers concerning textiles.

Mr Dell said that the UK lifted its reserve on the revised version of the ad referendum agreement reached between the commission and Portugal, and endorsed the action taken by the commission in respect of Greece and Spain. Satisfactory assurances were received from the commission concerning the treatment of unrestrained suppliers whose exports to the community, or to an individual member state, threatened to exceed the global ceilings or to cause market disruption.

Shipbuilding redundancy payments

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, whether he would publish details of the age profile of British Shipbuilders upon which he based his estimate of an average payment of £1,725 million per 1000 employees receiving benefit under the Shipbuilding (Redundancy Payments) Act.

Mr Huckfield replied that the estimate was based on the following profile of the age of British Shipbuilders' employees:

Age group	Percentage of total employees
Over 65	1.1
60–65	7.3
55–60	13.5
50–55	9.4
40–50	23.7
Below 40	45.0
	100.0%

The actual ages of those made redundant would not be firmly established until their cases had been examined in detail prior to payments being made.

Airport fire-fighting equipment

Mr Grimond (Orkney and Shetland) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what evidence he had that the present fire-fighting equipment on island air-strips in Orkney and Shetland was not adequate.

Mr Clinton Davis answered that the United

Kingdom was a member of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and applied scales of fire and rescue equipment recommended by that organisation. These scales were revised in 1976 as a result of studies conducted by member states and in the light of worldwide experience. The scales were related to the class of operations at the airfield. The Civil Aviation Authority notified licensees of aerodromes of the revised scales, and emphasised the need for them to be met as soon as practicable. Most of the island airstrips on Orkney and Shetland at present failed to meet the recommended scales and, therefore, fell below the internationally accepted standards for the class of operations conducted at those aerodromes.

Accidents to fishermen

John Prescott (Kingston upon Hull East) asked how many fishermen had been killed or seriously injured when boarding or leaving their vessels for each year since 1968; and what proportion occurred in British harbours.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the information as regards deaths was set out below. Figures for serious injuries were not available.

Year	Number of deaths on boarding		Number of deaths on going ashore	
	British harbours	Other harbours	British harbours	Other harbours
1969	0	0	0	0
1970	1	0	0	0
1971	2	0	0	0
1972	2	0	0	0
1973	1	0	0	0
1974	2	1	0	0
1975	3	1	0	0
1976	3	0	2	0
1977	8	0	1	0

Peak Park minerals

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if, from information at his disposal, he would tabulate the annual requirement of fluorspar, limestone, and other minerals found in the Peak Park to meet domestic as well as export needs, stating what percentage of each was taken from there.

Mr Cryer said that the annual UK production of non-ferrous minerals that fell within his department's responsibility and were found in the Peak Park, and the approximate proportion produced there, were:

	UK production 1977 ('000 tonnes)	Proportion produced in the Peak Park
Fluorspar	194	major
Industrial sand	6 079	very small
Fire clay	1 674	very small
Barytes	50	major
Calcite	14	major
Lead	8	major

Precise production statistics for minerals produced in the Peak Park were not available separately for reasons of commercial confidentiality.

Steel output and employment

George Gardiner (Reigate) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if, from international sources available to him, he would list: (a) total crude steel output and (b) employees employed in the steel industry, measured on a comparable basis, between 1970 and 1977 in the following countries: the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, France, Canada, Italy and West Germany.

Mr Huckfield said that the information on crude steel production was given in table 1. Employment figures were available on the same definitional basis only in respect of countries in the European Economic Communities. The figures that were given in table 2 do however reflect differences in the structure and organisation of the steel industry in the various countries. It would be misleading therefore to use the figures to make direct comparisons between countries. Employment figures for the USA, Canada and Japan were available but were not comparable with those for the EEC nor necessarily with each other.

Table 2 EMPLOYMENT 1970–1977 ('000)

	United Kingdom	France	Italy	West Germany
		end year figures		
1970	—	146.1	76.7	228.9
1971	—	144.7	81.1	218.0
1972	—	144.0	85.6	212.8
1973	190.4	151.5	89.6	219.9
1974	188.3	157.6	95.6	223.1
1975	176.6	155.5	96.1	212.9
1976	174.2	153.7	98.0	210.1
1977	174.2 [1]	146.2 [2]	96.3 [2]	203.6 [2]

[1] End August figures. [2] End October figures. — not available.
Sources: Statistical Office of the European Communities, United Nations Economic Commission for Euproe, Iron and Steel Statistics Bureau.

Tuesday, 1 August

Consumers' contractual rights

Peter Hardy (Rother Valley) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether clearance by the Price Commission of rental increases by television rental companies or licences issued by his department had the effect of overriding consumers' contractual rights.

Mr Maclennan said no. He added that the Price Commission did not approve price increases, and the notification of an increase to the commission had no effect on the contractual rights of the consumer. Licences were issued to rental companies by his department solely in connection with the Control of Hiring order, and the licences did not override the hirers' contractual rights. It had come to his attention that one company, Henry Wigfall and Son Ltd, in seeking increases which may not be permitted by the agreement in question, had purported to its customers that is was authorised to make such increases by the Price Commission and his department. No such authorisation had been given and no powers exist under which it could be given. He would strongly deprecate any failure by a company to comply with the terms of its agreements with its customers and he very strongly deplored any claim that such a failure had official authority.

Industrial democracy

Arthur Blenkinsop (South Shields) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement about the further report on the promotion of industrial democracy within British Shipbuilders.

Mr Kaufman replied that the report had been submitted by British Shipbuilders and he had that day laid copies before each house of parliament. The report set out a constructive plan of action based on the establishment of local groups to be set up in each subsidiary. These groups were to prepare detailed plans for the development of industrial democracy in their companies by the end of this year. A further progress report would be submitted to him at that time.

Shipbuilding intervention fund

Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would make a statement on the future of the shipbuilding intervention fund.

Mr Kaufman said that he had reached agreement with the EEC commissioner for competition on the renewal of the shipbuilding intervention fund. It had been agreed that the fund should be used for the period to 31 December 1978 provided that the British government satisfied the commission case by case that the assistance to be provided was appropriately degressive and no more than necessary and that the orders secured with the assistance of the fund were linked to the attainment of industrial restructuring objectives in accordance with article 6 of the fourth directive. This agreement did not prejudge the full period of application of the intervention fund. The maximum rate of aid would be 30 per cent of contract price with the possibility for the commission to approve exceptions in special cases. It would of course be the United Kingdom government's firm intention to keep the assistance to the minimum in each case. The fund was agreed by the commission at an annual rate of £85 million provided that the sum was required by the restructuring programme. The commission had agreed that the United Kingdom could draw on the fund up to an appropriate proportion, subject to agreement with the commission in individual cases.

Table 1 CRUDE STEEL PRODUCTION 1970–1977 Million tonnes

	United Kingdom	United States	Japan	France	Canada	Italy	West Germany
1970	28.3 [1]	119.1	93.3	23.8	11.2	17.3	45.0
1971	24.2	109.1	88.6	22.9	11.0	17.5	40.3
1972	25.3	120.7	96.9	24.1	11.8	19.8	43.7
1973	26.6	136.5	119.3	25.3	13.4	21.0	49.5
1974	22.4	132.0	117.1	27.0	13.6	23.8	53.2
1975	20.2 [1]	105.9	102.3	21.5	13.0	21.8	40.4
1976	22.3	116.3	107.4	23.2	13.0	23.4	42.4
1977 [2]	20.4	113.2	102.4	22.1	13.5	23.3	39.0

[1] 53 week year. [2] Provisional.
Sources: Statistical Office of the European Communities, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Iron and Steel Statistics Bureau.

National Enterprise Board

Mr Morton (Manchester, Moss Side) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement about the National Enterprise Board's corporate plan, 1977 to 1981.

Mr Varley said that the board's corporate plan, 1977–81, had been reviewed and endorsed in extensive discussions with his department. The plan reaffirmed the objectives identified in the interim policy guidance which he announced in his statement of 1 December 1976. (See *Trade and Industry*, 9 December 1977, page 484.) The plan identified the board's main tasks as being:

1 to ensure the success of its principal subsidiary companies;
2 to expand the UK manufacturing base by investment in a limited number of industrial sectors offering the prospect of being internationally competitive in a growing and profitable world market;
3 to stimulate the growth of exports by encouraging overseas marketing ventures and acting as a source of financial guarantee;
4 to encourage the expansion of smaller profitable companies, particularly when such action helps to revitalise industrial activity in areas of high unemployment.

Detailed studies of a number of industrial sectors had been undertaken; this approach was of fundamental importance. The plan identified priority sectors and referred to the strategies that were being worked out by the board as a means of contributing to the development of these sectors. The board's strategy, as its guidelines required, took account of the NEDC Industrial Strategy. The board, in implementing its strategy, normally sought to act in co-operation with industry and would be ready to make investments in those priority sectors where that seemed an appropriate way of achieving the sectoral objectives of the Industrial Strategy. The review of the plan had provided an opportunity for his department to discuss the board's financial performance and its contribution to productive investment, to employment and to exports. The review covered not only existing but also prospective investments by the board. The plan, and the discussions about it, were commercially confidential, but the board's annual report and accounts, 1977, which he had laid before the house on 4 April last, provided a full statement of the board's activities and of its general policy.

Technology agreements with USSR

Ivan Lawrence (Burton) asked for a list and summary of the current trade and technology agreements which the United Kingdom had with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, stating their financial implications where appropriate.

Mr Dell said that the United Kingdom had no current trade agreement with the USSR since trade agreements with third countries fell within the exclusive competence of the EEC commission. The UK had two agreements with the USSR which covered co-operation in the field of technology: the agreement for co-operation in the fields of applied science and technology concluded on 19 January 1968 and the agreement on the development of economic, scientific, technological and industrial co-operation concluded on 6 May 1974. Neither of these agreements had any financial implications.

Helicopter safety

Carol Mather (Esher) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if the Sikorsky S-61 helicopter flying on the Heathrow-Gatwick link had been subjected to the eight-hourly inspections of the rotor blade and to tests of lugs on the sleeve of the blade spindle which were called for by the United States Federal Aviation Administration; and if he was satisfied that all safety precautions were being taken following the loss last May of a United States S-61R Sikorsky helicopter deriving from a fault in the rotor blade assemblies.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that the Civil Aviation

Authority was responsible for matters of airworthiness. He understood that it had endorsed the directive issued by the United States Federal Aviation Administration as well as the recommendation made by the aircraft manufacturer so as to require a special inspection of all Sikorsky S-61 helicopters on the UK register. The aircraft used on the Heathrow-Gatwick link was comparatively new but would be subjected to the special inspection procedure at the required time.

Public appointments

Sir John Langford-Holt (Shrewsbury) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the total number of paid public appointments made by him in each of the last four years as recorded in the directory of paid public appointments made by ministers; and what was the total cost to the public purse of those appointments in each of those years.

Mr Dell said the information was as follows:

	Number of paid appointments or re-appointments	Gross cost of salaries/fees paid in respect of such appointments from public funds administered by the Department of Trade during the four-year period in question
		£
1974–75	19	16 900
1975–76	24	18 300
1976–77	25	24 900
1977–78	17	25 300

Note: Of the bodies listed in the directory of paid public appointments made by ministers, the salaries and fees of members of only seven fell on public funds administered by the Department of Trade.

Whisky in Australia

George Robertson (Hamilton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would make a statement on the increased marketing of blended Japanese whisky containing malt scotch whisky, in Australia, and the effect of that on the important future and present market for scotch whisky.

Mr Meacher replied that he understood that sales of Japanese whisky in Australia were growing, but were still very small, and that some of that whisky might contain malt that had been exported from the United Kingdom to Japan. During the period January to May 1978 Japan exported to Australia 43 500 litres of whisky compared with UK scotch exports of 7.8 million litres (converted from 1.28 million proof gallons). This export trade was among the matters being considered in the distilling sector working group of the economic development committee for the food and drink manufacturing industry, and was a matter ultimately for the industry to decide where the balance of its interest lay in terms of employment and sales.

Film development fund

Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he had completed his review of the experimental two-year life of the national film development fund.

Mr Meacher replied: yes. He added that so far some 70 projects had received loans from the fund and some had attracted production finance. He had come to the conclusion that the scheme should continue but he would wish to see its progress reviewed after a further two-yearly interval in September 1980.

Grants from Eady levy

Gwyneth Dunwoody (Crewe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he had come to any conclusions on the applications from the children's film foundation, the British Film Institute and the National Film Institute for grants in the coming year from the money collected by the Eady levy on cinema admissions.

Mr Meacher said: yes. He said that after receiving the advice of the cinematograph films council, he had authorised the British film fund agency to make payments, in the year beginning 24 September 1978, subject to the usual safeguards, up to the full amounts applied for by these bodies; which were respectively.

	£
Children's Film Foundation	574 625
British Film Institute	36 300
National Film School	180 000

Wednesday, 26 July

Investment in manufacturing

John Moore (Croydon Central) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish figures showing gross fixed investment in new plant and machinery per head of those working in manufacturing industry, excluding nationalised industries, in the United Kingdom in: (a) current and (b) 1976 prices for each year since 1960.

Mr Cryer said that information on gross fixed investment and employment for manufacturing industry, excluding nationalised industries, was not available for the whole of the period requested. In the table below, investment in plant and machinery per head of employment for manufacturing including nationalised industries was given at current and 1970 prices. Figures for investment at 1976 prices were not available.

GROSS FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION IN PLANT AND MACHINERY[1] PER HEAD OF EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT: ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

	Current prices	1970 Prices £ per head
1960	85	121
1961	104	142
1962	99	132
1963	92	120
1964	104	133
1965	119	145
1966	131	153
1967	136	159
1968	150	171
1969	161	176
1970	195	195
1971	208	189
1972	198	168
1973	218	170
1974	292	194
1975	346	179
1976	424	179
1977	512	188

[1] Acquisitions less disposals of new and secondhand plant and machinery

Source: Department of Employment, Department of Industry

Car imports

William Ross (Londonderry) asked how many motor cars were imported into the United Kingdom in the first six months of the current year; how many foreign cars were registered in the same period in the United Kingdom; and how many were in stock on the importers' premises at the beginning and end of the period.

Mr Cryer replied that imports of passenger motor cars in the period January to June 1978 were 433 080 units. New registrations of imported cars in the period January to June 1978 were 408 754, according to figures compiled by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Information was not available of the number of cars in stock on importers premises.

Car production

William Ross (Londonderry) asked how many motor cars were produced in the United Kingdom for the first six months of the current year; how many were sold in the home market; how many were exported in that period; and how many were in stock on the manufacturers' premises at the beginning and end of the period.

Mr Cryer replied that in the first six months of 1978, 721 000 cars were produced in the United Kingdom, of which 434 000 were for the home market and 287 000 for export. Reliable information was not available about the number of cars held in stock at manufacturers' premises.

European piano industry

Ronald Brown (Hackney South and Shoreditch) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would discuss with his fellow trade ministers in the EEC common action to be taken to prevent the flooding of member countries with dumped pianos thereby putting at risk the European piano industry.

Mr Meacher said: no. He went on that anti-dumping action could only be taken by the EEC commission following receipt of a formal application, normally from the EEC industry. In this case the UK industry had been advised what steps they could take to put together a case. The department had offered to provide further advice, but had not received any requests for assistance from the industry.

International agricultural trade

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what changes the government was seeking to achieve in the multilateral trade negotiations on the pattern of international agricultural trade.

Mr Meacher replied that the department supported the objectives of agricultural trade expressed in the statement issued by the major negotiating partners in Geneva on 31 July. These included the need for improved international co-operation possibly through the establishment of a Gatt consultative committee; an understanding clarifying the Gatt article XVI: 3 so as to avoid distortions of trade in traditional markets through the use of export subsidies; completion of satisfactory settlements on the removal of specific obstacles to trade (which should include obstacles faced by the British food and drink industry such as US wine gallon assessment); and the conclusion of new international agreements on the major agricultural commodities such as wheat, coarse grain, dairy products and meat, which would improve market stability and expand opportunities for trade, which should provide for improved access for New Zealand cheese and Australian beef. The department shared the view expressed that a positive result in agriculture was critical to the successful completion of the negotiations before the end of the year.

UK trade in manufactures

Tom Ellis (Wrexham) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would provide the statistics of United Kingdom total exports and imports of manufactures for as much of 1978 as was available, for the corresponding period of 1977, for the calendar years 1977 and 1972, in respect of total world, the original six members of the EEC as a group, the Irish Republic, Denmark, the European free trade association as its membership stood in 1972, the whole of western Europe, the United States of America, and the commonwealth.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

£ million

	SITC (R)			SITC (Rev 2)	
	1972	1977	Jan-June 1977	Jan-June 1977	Jan-June 1978
World					
Imports (cif)	6 093	21 305	10 788	10 942	12 956
Exports (fob)	8 257	26 796	13 129	13 332	14 928
EEC(6)					
Imports (cif)	2 034	8 835	4 290	4 331	5 321
Exports (fob)	1 836	7 434	3 729	3 773	4 239
Irish Republic					
Imports (cif)	189	638	295	303	352
Exports (fob)	355	1 149	532	537	715
Denmark					
Imports (cif)	122	273	139	140	164
Exports (fob)	181	537	278	280	262
Efta (1972)					
Imports (cif)	1 331	3 966	2 126	2 138	2 810
Exports (fob)	1 343	4 172	2 081	2 098	2 194
Western Europe					
Imports (cif)	3 639	13 760	6 870	6 940	8 699
Exports (fob)	3 848	13 775	6 878	6 955	7 571
Commonwealth					
Imports (cif)	775	1 738	904	917	940
Exports (fob)	1 588	4 180	2 023	2 058	2 383
United States of America					
Imports (cif)	829	2 663	1 445	1 455	1 607
Exports (fob)	1 012	2 418	1 162	1 180	1 353

Notes: a. From January 1978 the United Kingdom has adopted the second revision of the standard international trade classification. Figures for earlier years were compiled under the previous classification (SITC(R)). For purposes of comparison, figures for January-June 1977 have been provided on both bases. b. The figures for the commonwealth are based on its current constitution, except that those for 1972 exclude Bangladesh for which separate information is not available. c. Western Europe is taken as currently defined in the overseas trade statistics of the United Kingdom.

Trade with east Europe

George Gardiner (Reigate) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would list for every year since 1970 the surplus or deficit in trade between the United Kingdom and the following countries: the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Romania.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

£ million

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
USSR								
Deficit	108.1	110.8	128.4	229.7	277.8	179.8	403.6	439.8
Czechoslovakia								
Deficit	3.2	5.9	8.6	11.9	10.2	7.9	10.0	21.0
German Dem. Rep.								
Surplus	0.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Deficit	–	2.4	6.7	12.7	5.0	6.2	15.3	40.8
Poland								
Surplus	–	4.7	4.9	16.4	29.6	68.7	37.3	22.0
Deficit	1.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Hungary								
Surplus	8.2	11.4	11.1	9.6	17.1	16.4	19.1	18.4
Yugoslavia								
Surplus	21.7	35.1	25.2	32.2	53.1	69.9	95.0	134.6
Romania								
Surplus	5.9	10.0	15.4	2.4	–	3.9	–	31.1
Deficit	–	–	–	–	0.2	–	0.5	0.5

Note: these figures are in accordance with the second revision of the standard international trade classification (SITC (Rev 2), and relate to the crude balance of trade (ie the difference between imports valued cif and exports valued fob).

Defective product liabilities

Allen McKay (Penistone) asked whether the government proposed to accept the recommendations of the law commission and of the royal commission on civil liability and compensation for personal injury that producers should be strictly liable for personal injury caused by defective products.

Mr Hattersley said that the government were sympathetic to this proposal and believed that it would be an important and widely welcomed reform in the civil law. However, in the light of the many representations made since publication of the reports, they were also aware of the anxiety in industry about the possible effect of this change on competitiveness and the introduction of new products, about the possible burden on small firms and about the special problems for some product sectors. Before reaching any final decision, therefore, he was arranging further detailed consultation with industry in order to assess those potential problems and to examine how the principle of strict liability might be implemented in such a way that the interests of the consumer and of industry were equitably balanced.

Thursday, 3 August

Investment in industry

George Gardiner (Reigate) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish a table showing for each current member state of the EEC, for which quarterly data was available in the organisation for economic co-operation and development publication 'Quarterly national accounts bulletin', in each quarter since 1970, the proportion of the gross national product devoted to investment in plant and machinery.

Mr Cryer said that relevant information was published in the OECD bulletin for the United Kingdom only of EEC member states. Investment in plant and machinery as a percentage of gross domestic product at current prices, not seasonally adjusted, was shown below:

1971	1st qtr	9.5	1975	1st qtr	9.4
	2nd qtr	8.4		2nd qtr	8.1
	3rd qtr	8.6		3rd qtr	8.8
	4th qtr	8.6		4th qtr	8.1
1972	1st qtr	9.3	1976	1st qtr	9.0
	2nd qtr	8.2		2nd qtr	8.1
	3rd qtr	8.1		3rd qtr	8.4
	4th qtr	8.4		4th qtr	8.8
1973	1st qtr	9.6	1977	1st qtr	9.4
	2nd qtr	8.4		2nd qtr	8.4
	3rd qtr	8.5		3rd qtr	8.8
	4th qtr	9.3			
1974	1st qtr	10.0			
	2nd qtr	8.9			
	3rd qtr	8.5			
	4th qtr	9.6			

Source: OECD Quarterly Bulletin of National Accounts.

Regional assistance

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the total cost of help being given by his department to private industry in the United Kingdom, the north west and north-east Lancashire, respectively; and how many jobs these grants were helping to maintain in each case.

Mr Cryer said that since the Industry Act of 1972 came into operation, assistance of £1,257 million had been offered for 6151 projects in the UK under sections 7 and 8. Of this, £136.5 million had been offered for projects in the north-west region and £8.4 million for projects in north-east Lancashire. Jobs created or maintained by section 7 assistance totalled 417 000 in the UK, 115 000 in the north-west region and 10 200 in north-east Lancashire. Regional development grant payments had totalled £1,454 million for the UK and £210 million for the north-west region. The amount of regional development grant paid to firms in north-east Lancashire was not readily available: nor was the precise number of jobs created or maintained by regional development grants or section 8 assistance since these were not directly job linked.

Industrial development certificates

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked how many industrial development certificates had been refused in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, respectively, since 1 January 1977; what percentage they represented of the total number of applications from each country; and, of the certificates issued in the south-east of England during 1977, what percentage of the total were for designated inner-city locations.

Mr Cryer said that the figures below covered all schemes for the period 1 January 1977 to 31 May 1978:

	IDCs refused	Refusals as a % of decided applications
England	11	0.5
Scotland	Nil	0.0
Wales	Nil	0.0
Northern Ireland	Not applicable	Not applicable

Notes:
1 IDCs are not required in Northern Ireland.
2 IDCs are not required in development areas. These now included most of Scotland and Wales, but included the whole of Scotland up to 1 April 1978.
525 IDCs were approved in the south-east economic planning region in 1977; 14 per cent in the 13 London boroughs which are to be designated under the Inner Urban Areas Act (Greenwich, Lewisham, Newham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Islington, Lambeth, Hammersmith, Brent, Ealing, Haringey and Wandsworth).

First-time businesses

Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what proportion of inquiries received by small firms' information centres in each of the last three years came from people seeking to start up in business for the first time.

Mr Cryer replied that the proportion of all inquiries received by small firms' information centres in each of the last three years from people wishing to set up in business for the first time were as follows:

	%
1975	16.2
1976	19.0
1977	21.6

Small firms' counselling service

Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what had been the cost of the small firms' counselling service for the London and south-east region and the number of persons to be employed; and what were the services they would render.

Mr Cryer replied that the cost of the small firms counselling service for the London and south-east region so far this year amounted to approximately £2,000. The number of counsellors engaged was 18 including a counselling adviser. They were all experienced businessmen who provided a service to help owners and managers of small businesses identify management problem areas and discuss ways of increasing efficiency.

Rolls-Royce RB211

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry which were the versions of the RB211 engine produced by Rolls-Royce to which he referred as being either derated 25 tonne engines or normally rated 20 tonne engines and suitable for the B10 derivative of the Airbus.

Mr Kaufman answered that the engines meeting the description quoted by the questioner were the RB211-524 B and the RB211-22 D, respectively. He understood that Airbus Industrie intended that the B10 should normally be powered by derated 25 tonne engines. It would be necessary to incur significant expenditure on the development of the engine and associated components before the RB211 could be made available as an engine option on the Airbus family of aircraft.

British Leyland assistance

Julius Silverman (Birmingham, Erdington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether British Leyland had received financial assistance through any of the schemes operated by his department under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972.

Mr Varley said that apart from the £30 million loan to BL in 1976 and the undertaking earlier this year to provide £150 million by way of equity, both of which were specifically authorised by resolutions of the house in accordance with section 8(8) of the Industry Act 1972, BL had been offered £1.4 million of assistance for the beans foundry project under his department's ferrous foundry scheme. When this offer was made the view was taken that as the amount of assistance proposed was less than £5 million, it could be provided under section 8 without a separate resolution of the house being required. He had now decided, however, that should any similar case arise in the future he would bring the appropriate resolution before the house.

National Giro bank

Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement about National Girobank's capital structure.

Mr Kaufman replied that since the passing of the Post Office (Banking Services) Act 1976 the National Girobank has made sound progress. It had conducted its business on a profitable basis and had met its financial target of 12½ per cent annual average return on public dividend capital plus retained profits over the period 1975-76 to 1977-78. Its business over this period had grown substantially and it was providing a wide range of banking services. As envisaged in the white paper 'The Development of National Giro' (cmnd 6344) it was now subject to full prudential supervision by the monetary authorities. In 1976 no further advances of capital were envisaged but the situation had changed with the growth and development of the business. The government had therefore concluded that National Girobank's capital base now needed strengthening to match this growth and the secretary of state proposed to advance £4 million of public dividend capital and £4 million of national loan fund to the Post Office to meet that need. That would not affect the public sector borrowing requirement since the Post Office had agreed to increase its loan repayments by an equivalent amount. The secretary of state would be seeking the approval of the house for a supplementary estimate in due course.

EEC and textile industry

Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement on a recent document from the commission setting out guidelines for textile and clothing industry policy.

Mr Williams said that the EEC commission had put forward a paper to the council setting out proposals for general guidelines for adapting the textile and clothing industries of the community to the conditions of international competition. The commission considered that there should first be consultation with industry, trade unions and national governments to help identify the problems and the specific measures that might be required. HMG agree that no EEC policy could possibly be reached without the fullest prior consultation. The commis-

Industrial development certificates

Michael Morris (Northampton South) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many applications he had received for industrial development certificates in each economic planning region in England and Wales for each year since 1974-75; and how many in each case were granted.

Mr Cryer said that the table (below) showed the number of schemes of 15 000 sq ft and over for which applications for industrial development certificates were decided during the financial years 1974-75 to 1977-78.

		1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	1977/78
Wales	Approvals	16	8	12	4
	Refusals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Yorkshire and Humberside	Approvals	157	122	149	139
	Refusals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
East Midlands	Approvals	128	109	166	170
	Refusals	5	Nil	1	Nil
East Anglia	Approvals	79	40	66	64
	Refusals	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
South east	Approvals	359	276	307	407
	Refusals	32	8	5	8
South west	Approvals	93	61	60	89
	Refusals	1	3	1	Nil
West Midlands	Approvals	114	159	169	177
	Refusals	10	4	Nil	Nil
North west	Approvals	160	126	145	148
	Refusals	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Note:
IDCs were not required in development areas or special development areas. These included the whole of the northern region, most of Wales, and parts of the south-west, north-west and Yorkshire and Humberside regions.

sion should be in no doubt that the British government attached great importance to the textile and clothing industry in this country. Modernisation had been assisted under the wool textile and clothing industry schemes under section 8 of the Industry Act, and by the normal forms of regional financial assistance. HMG pressed hard within the community for a satisfactory outcome to the multi-fibre agreement negotiations last year, and would continue to support the industry by seeking to ensure effective implementation of the arrangements on trade in textiles and clothing agreed by the council of ministers in December. HMG were entitled to expect the MFA undertakings to be honoured by the commission. The government was determined that the interests of the UK industry should be fully taken into account and it remained committed to maintaining a strong and viable industry in this country.

Woollen industry

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry when he expects to make an announcement in reply to a recent recommendation, made by a joint working party of the Yorkshire wool delegation and the Yorkshire Water Authority, that up to £750,000 be given to assist sections of the woollen industry, especially the scouring section, to overcome price advantages of competitors arising from much cheaper water and effluent charges in other common market countries and what representations he had received.

Mr Cryer answered that the report of the Yorkshire Water Authority/wool textile delegation on charges for water and trade effluent treatment was lengthy and complex; it reached several conclusions from its study of the problem and made five recommendations. The annual payment of £750,000 to the wool scouring sector was only one of those recommendations. Officials of the two departments concerned, the Department of Industry and the Department of the Environment, had been considering the report in detail and he hoped to be able to make a statement near the end of August. He had received direct representations from the wool textile delegation, the Wool (and Allied) Textile Employers' Council and four individual companies in the scouring sector; the British wool confederation had also made their views known.

West midlands

Betty Boothroyd (West Bromwich West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what measures had been taken by his department to create and safeguard jobs in the west midlands and what had been the cost of such schemes. She also asked what measures had been taken to maintain and encourage industry in the west midlands and what had been the cost of such measures.

Mr Williams said that industry and employment in the west midlands benefited from the measures that his department had introduced in order to strengthen the country's industrial competitiveness. These included the sectoral and general schemes under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972; and the product and process development scheme and the microprocessor application scheme under the Science and Technology Act 1965. The assistance made available in the west midlands under the section 8 schemes was as follows:

Scheme	No. of projects	Assistance offered (£'000)	Associated project costs (£'000)
Accelerated projects	28	8 778	79 449
Selective investment	13	3 397	30 174
Wood textile	3	261	1 126
Clothing	27	268	858
Ferrous foundry	77	19 134	82 897
Machine tool	39	2 125	10 599
Paper and board	2	94	395
Poultry meat	1	624	2 960
Red meat	9	628	5 952
Non-ferrous foundry	28	2 815	14 176
Instrumentation and automation	1	29	155
Total	228	38 153	228 741

In addition, five applications had been approved under the product and process scheme for assistance of £314,400 for projects costing £928,000. The microprocessor applications scheme had only been in existence since 4 July 1978. The government had also provided considerable assistance to a number of firms in the west midlands, including British Leyland, Chrysler (UK) Ltd and Alfred Herbert, which had safeguarded jobs. The National Enterprise Board had extensive investments in the region. In addition, Birmingham was one of the few areas to have a partnership arrangement under the government's inner city policy.

Balance of trade with EEC

Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would show the balance of trade between the United Kingdom and the EEC in the following product fields, for each of the last 10 years: (a) motor cars (b) commercial vehicles, (c) tractors, (d) telecommunications equipment, (e) machine tools, and (f) textiles and man-made fibres.

Mr Meacher gave the following information for trade with the EEC as currently constituted:

CRUDE BALANCE — £ million

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Passenger motor cars (732.1 and 732.6)	+29.1	+31.4	+5.4	−58.8	−157.0	−197.3	−160.6	−231.8	−471.3	−753.6
Commercial vehicles (732.2-5 and 732.7)	+14.4	+20.0	+21.8	+23.5	+5.9	+14.4	+2.0	+34.3	+52.6	+27.0
Tractors (712.5)	+14.4	+17.9	+17.7	+16.2	+21.1	+21.0	+14.0	+19.2	+33.5	+42.4
Telecommunications equipment (724.0)	+5.4	+9.8	+4.5	+7.3	−11.1	−34.8	−5.3	+18.9	+41.6	+37.0
Machine tools (715.1)	−14.7	−6.4	−6.9	+4.1	−4.4	−13.0	−28.3	−30.0	−32.0	−32.6
Textiles (including man-made fibres) (65 (all items), 262.8, 266, 841.21 and 841.45)	−4.8	+13.3	+19.9	+0.8	+1.4	−12.6	−48.8	−48.0	−38.9	−81.9

Notes:
a The crude balance represents the difference between exports by country of destination, valued fob, and imports by country of consignment, valued cif.
b Code numbers following the descriptions relate to the standard international trade classification (revised).
c The figures for tractors exclude road tractors for tractor-trailer combinations (which are included in commercial vehicles) and industrial tractors.

Arms to Warsaw pact

Robin F. Cook (Edinburgh Central) asked whether any licences for the export of arms to member states of the Warsaw pact had been issued in the past five years.

Mr Meacher answered that group 1 of the Export of Goods (Control) Order, under which arms were controlled, covered a wide range of aircraft, arms, ammunition, military stores and appliances. Licences to export to Warsaw pact countries goods falling within this broad group had been issued where the UK was satisfied about the nature of the end-use, and in conformity with our international undertakings. Such goods included explosives, propellants and fuels where destined for research, medical and humanitarian purposes, sporting weapons, shotguns and cartridges, Viper engines, ejection seats and aircraft instruments.

Arab boycott

Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what his estimate was of the loss of exports by the United Kingdom as a result of the Arab boycott in each of the last three years.

Mr Meacher said that the Arab boycott could affect UK exports both to the Arab states which implemented it and to Israel, but there was no way in which its impact in either case can be quantified. Over the last three years, however, UK exports had continued to increase in value to both destinations. In the case of the Arab states operating the boycott, the increase in value had been from £1,386 million in 1975 to £2,702 million in 1977 and in the case of Israel from £237 million to £274 million.

Imports of cutlery and flatware

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would publish from information available to him the number of pieces and value of cutlery, flatware, stainless cutlery, and stainless flatware imported into Great Britain from other EEC contries and third countries, respectively, and, in total, indicating how this compared with total consumption and exports to other EEC countries as well as third countries.

Mr Meacher said that the following was the available information for 1977:

CUTLERY AND FLATWARE [1]

		Imports [2]			Exports [3]			Manufacturers' sales [4]	Apparent consumption [5]
		EEC	Other	Total	EEC	Other	Total		
Cutlery [6]	£'000	2 401	6 152	8 553	3 234	6 361	9 595	20 825	19 783
Of which:	'000 dozens	433	2 231	2 663	2 341	4 857	7 197	..	..
Table knives [7]	£'000	185	1 723	1 908	218	603	821	4 164	5 251
	'000 dozens	65	1 078	1 143	119	182	301	..	..
Of which:									
Stainless steel	£'000	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 680	..
Table knives [7]	'000 dozens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..									
Flatware [8]	£'000	816	5 060	5 876	1 749	4 212	5 961	10 822	10 737
	Tonnes	175	2 202	2 377	712	1 098	1 810	..	..
Of which:									
Stainless steel [7]	£'000	597	4 577	5 174	1 254	2 391	3 645	3 848	5 377
Flatware	'000 dozens	210	5 006	5 216	521	779	1 300	..	..

[1] Excluding cutlery and flatware made of precious metals. [2] Valued cif. [3] Valued fob. [4] Sales by establishments with 25 or more employees. [5] Manufacturers' sales plus imports minus exports. [6] Finished cutlery suitable for domestic or personal use including knives with folding blades, kitchen knives, table knives, finished cutlery tools of trade, scissors and tailors' shears, and knife blanks or blades. [7] Sales figures exclude blanks. [8] Spoons and forks of all kinds including fish eaters, butter knives and ladles and blanks. .. Not available.
Note:
Because of rounding the totals do not always agree with the sum of the individual figures.

Oil imports

George Park (Coventry North East) asked what was the total volume of oil imports into the United Kingdom in 1966 and 1967 and at the latest available date; and what percentage was derived from each of the oil-producing countries.

Mr Meacher said that total imports of petroleum and petroleum products (SITC(R) Division 33) during 1966, 1967 and the period January-May 1978 were 93.2, 98.5 and 33.6 million tonnes respectively. The percentage distribution by country of consignment was as follows:

%

	Jan-May 1978	1967	1966
Kuwait	15.88	12.65	17.59
Saudi Arabia	15.42	10.58	7.16
Iran	11.95	17.74	5.06
Iraq	9.28	3.55	11.24
Soviet Union	5.26	0.03	0.02
Norway	4.52	0.01	0.02
Libya	3.16	10.83	10.87
Dubai	3.04	—	—
Abu Dhabi	2.62	0.93	1.89
Nigeria	2.09	4.55	7.70
Venezuela	1.44	9.08	8.74
Oman	0.69	0.14	—
Trinidad and Tobago	0.36	1.06	1.46
Algeria	—	0.77	1.89
Qatar	0.30	0.61	2.91
Other countries	23.99	27.47	23.45

Notes:
a. Details of imports by country of origin in 1966 and 1967 are not available, and volume information by individual country on this basis for the period January to May 1978 could be provided only at disproportionate cost. b. In the six months ended June 1978 UK imports of petroleum and petroleum products were 38.9 million tonnes. Details by individual country are not yet available.

Imports from Malta

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked if imports of trousers, blouses and women's nightwear from Malta in the current year had exceeded the multi fibre arrangement trigger level.

Mr Meacher replied that imports of trousers, blouses and women's nightwear from Malta in the

first five months of 1978 had exceeded the relevant 1978 UK regional trigger levels as they did in 1976 and 1977. The table (below) set out the relevant figures. The department asked the EEC commission several weeks ago to open discussions with Malta with a view to bringing her into the EEC's general restraint arrangements for Mediterranean suppliers of low-cost textiles and clothing, and this they had now agreed to do.

Product	1976 imports '000 pieces	1977 imports '000 pieces	1978 Jan-May imports '000 pieces	1978 trigger threshold (UK regional) '000 pieces
Trousers (category 6)	101	282	365	65
Blouses (category 7)	252	304	180	47
Women's nightwear (category 30A)	416	770	283	40

Exports to Uganda and Chile

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade by what percentage exports to Uganda had been increased or decreased during the first six months of 1978. He also asked by what percentage exports to Chile had increased or decreased during the first six months of 1978.

Mr Meacher said that exports to Uganda increased by 16.5 per cent and those to Chile decreased by 17 per cent in the first six months of 1978 compared with the same period of last year.

Trade marks

Maurice Macmillan (Farnham) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he was currently satisfied with the present EEC regulations governing the registration of trade marks in the EEC; if he considered that adequate protection was afforded to British companies; and whether methods existed of registering trade marks on a community-wide basis rather than individually in each EEC state.

Mr Clinton Davis said that at present trade marks were registered in the EEC on a country by country basis and he had had no representations to the effect that the protection offered in each country was inadequate. Although this system was expected to continue, negotiations were now afoot with a view to enabling a trade mark with EEC-wide effect to be registered on the basis of a single application to a community trade mark office. The government had proposed that this office should be located in London.

Maurice Macmillan (Farnham) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether in some EEC states it was possible for British firms to be deprived of the right to trade under their normal trade marks due to pre-emptive registrations of these trade marks by potential competitor firms, or by persons subsequently prepared to sell the right to use the trade mark back to the original British operating firms for a substantial sum; and, if this was the case, if he would take action to prevent this.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that it was possible for a firm to be so deprived where ownership of a trade mark in a country was required only through registration regardless of the rights of previous users. Such a situation had obtained, for example in France, since the introduction of new legislation in 1965, and the only effective remedy was for the firm concerned to register its mark as quickly as possible. British trade mark interests had been alerted to this.

Acceptors for petrol pumps

John Ellis (Brigg and Scunthorpe) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was the cause of the delay in his department approving the new £1 acceptors for petrol pumps; and what steps were being taken to speed up such approvals.

Mr Fraser said that there was no undue delay in examining the designs of note-acceptors, which were dealt with as modifications to the approved petrol pumps with which they were to be associated. If, however, a design was found to have objectionable features which made it unsuitable for use for trade then approval was either refused or withheld until it was rectified. Note-acceptors being electronic could malfunction due to their susceptibility to electrical interference unless adequately protected in design and therefore the acceptor and associated pump might need to be examined in combination to determine the overall suitability. Delays in granting approval might arise either from the manufacturer experiencing difficulty in providing both note-acceptor and pump, or from the equipment being found unsatisfactory on examination and having to be referred back for design changes.

Retail prices

Fred Silvester (Manchester, Withington) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was the percentage increase in retail prices between July 1945 and October 1951, between November 1951 and September 1964, between October 1964 and May 1970, between June 1970 and February 1974 and between March 1974 and the latest date for which figures were available.

Mr Maclennan said that the increases were as follows:

	Retail prices in the UK percentage increase
July 1945-October 1951	26.3
November 1951-September 1964	50.3
October 1964-May 1970	29.3
June 1970-February 1974	39.5
March 1974-June 1978	92.2

Post Office users' council

John Cockcroft (Nantwich) asked what criteria were used to select people for membership of the Post Office Users' National Council.

Mr Maclennan replied that it was the secretary of state's policy to appoint members from as wide a range of experience and backgrounds as possible, giving due emphasis to those who could speak on behalf of the less advantaged sections of society. Members were selected entirely upon the basis of individual merit to give a balance of appropriate skills and interests.

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European community news

BTC assured on Mediterranean textiles

Lack of confidence within the textiles industry following the UK lifting its reserve on textiles imports from Portugal is 'unfounded'.

Trade secretary Edmund Dell told a delegation from the British Textile Confederation (BTC) on 1 August that the UK had only lifted its reserve after the European commission had given two assurances on Mediterranean suppliers at the 25 July EEC foreign affairs council.

First, the commission would take action in future when there was an imminent threat that agreed ceilings on imports would be exceeded, rather than after the limits had been reached, and that the commission would take action when there was a substantial increase in imports into the UK not previously covered and where they were likely to cause cumulative disruption to the UK industry.

The delegation warned Mr Dell that the EEC's import restraint system was on trial, although it welcomed the commission's new assurances. BTC's attitude towards the EEC's new import regime was based largely on assurances that the global ceilings would be adhered to, yet within a matter of months a global ceiling had been reached.

Mr Dell assured the delegation that the government would continue to press the commission and, through every possible means, ensure that it adhered to the principles negotiated in the multi-fibre arrangement.

He concluded by saying that the textile industry should be confident about the future not only because of the new concessions, but also because the industry was now more protected than ever before and was enjoying the highest level of protection of any manufacturing industry since Britain became a free-trading country.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Commission publishes research programme on mine hygiene

The European commission has published its fourth research programme on industrial hygiene in mines, aimed at protecting coal and iron miners' health and improving working conditions.

The research will cover environmental monitoring and control – for example, studies on the effect of new machines and techniques on the amount of dust and other pollutants in the mine air, the improvement of dust and removal techniques, individual protection equipment, and dust monitoring instruments – and studies of the specific effect of dust, gases, noise and visibility on health.

The programme will be contracted out to research institutions on a shared funding basis and the total financial aid available for the programme will be seven million European units of accounts over a five-year period.

Commission to aid alternative energy source projects

Financial aid is being offered by the European commission to projects to exploit alternative energy sources. Funds could be granted to demonstration projects that build on previous research and could serve as models for commercial and industrial viability, the commission says.

Projects covered by the scheme include solar energy, geothermal energy and the liquefaction and gasification of solid fuels.

UK companies can send proposals straight to the commission and the support granted would take the form of a community financial contribution to the project, repayable under certain conditions.

The conditions and procedure for any repayment of financial aid would be laid down in a contract between the commission and the applicant.

For solar energy, the cost of the installation or installations producing useful energy – heat, motive power, electricity, fuel – would, in general, not be less than 100 000 European units of account (some £67,000).

Proposals should be submitted by 30 September this year on the commission's application form which can be found in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* for solar projects, C170/3, 15 July; geothermal projects, C153/3, 29 June; and solid fuels projects, C154/2, 30 June.

Inquiries about these schemes can be made to Dr J. K. Duxbury (solar), Dr J. K. Linacre (geothermal) and Mr H. F. Ferguson (solid fuels), Energy Technology Division, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1, tel. 01-211 5258, 4751, 3772, respectively.

EIB loans boost water projects

Britain's water supply and drainage systems are to get a £20.6 million inflow of funds from the European Investment Bank.

Three loans have been granted to the National Water Council to help finance water supply and drainage schemes in north-east and south-west England. Each of the three loans has been made available for 15 years at a 10.15 per cent interest rate.

A loan for £10 million will assist installation of sewerage, sewage treatment and disposal works on Tyneside, in Newcastle upon Tyne, by the Northumbrian Water Authority. This scheme is essential for the provision of new effluent facilities needed for industrial expansion along both banks of the Tyne. As the new works should reduce present river pollution by about two-thirds, the effect on the environment in central Newcastle will be substantial.

Northumbrian Water Authority's Kielder scheme will be lent £6.6 million. This involves the construction of a dam and 200 million m^3 capacity reservoir on the river North Tyne. This, in conjunction with a system of tunnels and pipelines, will regulate the flow of the rivers Tyne, Wear and Tees. Abstraction points along these rivers are the main source of water supply for the region's industry as well as providing for most of the 2.7 million population. It is expected that Kielder water will meet industrial and domestic demand until the end of the century. This is the EIB's fifth loan in support of the Kielder dam.

A sum of £4 million is being lent to the South West Water Authority to increase and reinforce water supply in the Plymouth area, notably by an extension of an existing water treatment works and water transmission systems based on the Tavy river. These installations are essential to industrial diversification and growth in this region.

These loans bring to £213 million the total amount of finance provided by the European Investment Bank towards water supply and drainage schemes in the UK.

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Burke to speak at shipping seminar

Richard Burke, EEC commissioner with special responsibility for shipping, will give a global view of the EEC's relationship with the shipping industry at a Seatrade seminar, 'Towards a shipping policy for the EEC', to be held in Brussels on 11 and 12 September.

Leading shipping experts from Europe and senior representatives from some of the EEC's trading partners will also speak at the seminar: Thomas Moakley, vice-chairman of the federal maritime commission, will give a United States view; and Igor Averin, head of the foreign relations department of the Soviet merchant marine ministry, will also be a speaker.

Topics to be discussed include: relations with the United States and non-EEC European shipping nations, pollution, substandard ships and the search for a common EEC position on a code of conduct for liner shipping.

Other speakers at the seminar include Sven H. Salen, chairman of Saleninvest AB of Sweden; Jacques Ribiere, vice-president and director general, Compagnie Générale Maritime of France; Daniel du Bois, chief executive officer, Dart Containerline; H. O. Karsten, director, marketing policy, Overseas Containers Ltd; J. Groenendijk, executive board member, Royal Nedlloyd Group; Karl-Heinz Sager, deputy chairman, Hapag-Loyd AG and J. Mulheim, chairman, standing committee of European Shippers' Council. For further information contact Ray Portlock, Seatrade, Fairfax House, Colchester CO1 1RJ, Essex, tel. Colchester 45121.

Anti-dumping duties on iron and steel products

The European commission has imposed definitive anti-dumping duties, replacing provisional charges to duty, on certain iron and steel products originating in Czechoslovakia, Japan, Poland or Spain.

The full description of the goods and the countries concerned is:

73.13 BIa Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, other than electrical sheets and plates, not further worked than hot-rolled, of a thickness of 2 mm or more (ECSC), origijnating in Czechoslovakia, Japan, Poland or Spain;

ex 73.13 BIVc Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, hot-rolled or cold-rolled, other than electrical sheets and plates, zinc-coated (other than electrolytically zinc-coated) (ECSC) originating in Japan;

ex 73.11 AI Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded (ECSC), U, I or H sections of a height of less than 80 mm and H sections (broad-flanged beams), U or I sections of a height of 80 mm or more, originating in Spain.

The rate of duty is variable and is designed to bridge the difference between the import price of a consignment and the basic price published by the commission. However, the amount of duty will be reduced to the extent that the importer satisfies Customs and Excise that an import price is lower than the basic price because of the inferior quality of the goods.

While making these duties definitive, the commission has nevertheless decided that, from the date the duties become definitive, they shall be suspended and no duties shall be collected. This does not affect the collection of duties secured while the duties were provisional and, with certain exceptions, such duties now become payable.

The exceptions are:

a Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, falling within subheading 73.13 BIa, of a thickness of 10 mm or less;
b Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, falling within subheading 73.13 BIVc, of qualities other than BS2989, grades Z1 or Z2, or of a thickness of less than 1 mm;
c Shapes and sections, of iron or steel, falling within subheading 73.11 AI, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, joists, universal beams and columns and channels with a web measurement of less than 80 mm;
d Deliveries made under contracts concluded before 20 December 1977, which contain no price revision clause permitting an adaptation of the contract prices to the basic prices applied in the European Coal and Steel Community.

An importer who considers that, under these provisions, he is elegible for a refund of provisional duties should apply to HM Customs and Excise (ICC(3)), Room 260, Kings Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3.

Suspension of anti-dumping duty

The European commission has suspended a provisional anti-dumping duty on iron or steel coils from Australia.

The full description of the goods is:

73.08 A and B Iron or steel coils for re-rolling, originating in Australia.

All these measure came into effect at midnight on 3 August 1978.

Pricing seminar to be held in London

Discriminatory prices and dumping in the EEC and the United States are two of the subjects to be covered in a two-day conference organised by the Institute of Marketing and European Study Conferences. The conference, to be held on 2 and 3 October in London, will deal with the many ways of regulating prices in these areas.

Other subjects include excessive prices, resale price maintenance and the recommendation of prices at unrealistic levels.

Speakers will include representatives from the Office of Fair Trading, from the EEC commission and lawyers and economists from the UK, the United States and Europe.

Further details can be obtained from Mrs Thorogate, European Study Conferences, Kirby House, 31 High Street East, Uppingham, Rutland, Leicestershire, LE15 9PY, tel. 057 282 2711.

Company accounts: fourth directive adopted

Rules for the uniform preparation, presentation and publication of company accounts in the EEC are laid down in the fourth directive which was adopted by the EEC council of ministers on 25 July. The directive represents a significant further step in the EEC company law harmonisation programme and will introduce two new aspects into company accounts in the UK. An explanation of the directive is followed by a reproduction of the complete text.

The fourth directive is a key directive in the company law harmonisation programme because most other directives, either adopted or still under discussion, depend to a certain extent on the harmonisation of accounting practices between member states. There is also a complementary directive to the fourth directive dealing with the accounts of groups of companies – the draft seventh directive – but it has not proved practicable to adopt this directive at the same time. The fourth directive, however, contains transitional provisions on group accounts which are satisfactory to the UK.

The government has welcomed the adoption of the fourth directive, because it has consistently supported the directive's objectives. The directive, which applies to both public and private companies limited by shares or by guarantee, will bring about a considerable improvement in the standards of reporting and disclosure in other member states, most of which do not at present require publication of the accounts of private companies.

Implementation

The directive requires member states to bring its provisions into force within two years of adoption, but member states may stipulate that the provisions shall not apply until 18 months (five years for unregistered companies) after they come into force (article 55). It is expected, therefore, that companies in the UK will have to prepare their accounts in conformity with the provisions of the directive as from 1982.

The Department of Trade intends to publish a consultative document early in 1979 setting out those changes which the department considers necessary to revise the eighth schedule of the Companies Act 1948, as amended by schedule 1 of the Companies Act 1967, to bring UK law into line with the directive.

Impact on UK company accounts

The directive, which sets out minimum requirements only, will introduce two new aspects into company accounts in the UK: prescribed formats for the layout of accounts and rules for the valuation of assets which will prevent the distribution of unrealised profits and require them to be held in an undistributable reserve.

Neither of these matters have previously been incorporated to any significant degree in UK legislation but have been left very much to the discretion of companies and the accountancy profession.

The law has hitherto specified the matters that should be disclosed but not in general the manner of disclosure or the methods used to arrive at the amounts being disclosed.

The valuation rules include a satisfactory provision that will permit the adoption of current cost accounting.

Principal requirements

Annual accounts: article 2 states that a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities, financial position and results will have to be given and this reflects the existing provision of UK legislation.

In cases where application of the directive's provisions would not be sufficient to give a true and fair view additional information must be given. In the exceptional case, where application of a provision of the directive is not compatible with the true and fair view, the provision is to be departed from with the nature, reason for and effect of the departure disclosed in the notes on the accounts.

Balance sheet: articles 9 and 10 lay down two alternative formats for the balance sheet. The number of items to be included is fairly high, although those headings not relevant to particular companies may be omitted. Certain items may be aggregated in the interest of clarity with the individual items disclosed by way of notes.

Article 4 states that headings may be subdivided where it is appropriate and the terminology of certain items may be varied.

Apart from imposing a standardised layout the main effect of these formats will be to require a rather greater breakdown of balance sheet information.

Companies in the UK have often given more information in their accounts than the statutory minimum, consequently the extent of the new disclosure requirements is likely to vary from company to company and in many cases, may be minimal.

Profit and loss account: articles 23 to 26 prescribe four alternative formats for the profit and loss account.

Two of these alternatives provide for layouts on the lines of those adopted by the majority of large companies in the UK. However, rather more information regarding the manufacturing and trading costs incurred is called for than has been statutorily required or customarily disclosed by UK companies to date.

In particular, an analysis of costs linking turnover with the profit disclosed will need to be provided. As for the balance sheet, certain aggregation and variation of the terminology is permitted.

Valuation rules: the general principles set out in article 31 are largely already matters of accountancy practice in the UK, although the requirement that profits may not be anticipated, taken with the asset valuation rules, is likely to cause some restrictions on the valuation of dealing stocks by a few companies. The main features of the rules are:

Assets are to be valued at historic cost or at a lower value in appropriate circumstances (article 32)

All fixed assets having a limited economic life have to be depreciated over that life (article 35)

In general formation and research and development expenses have to be written off over five years (articles 34 and 37); neither of these provisions should cause any problems in the UK

Goodwill has to be written off over a maximum period of five years although member states may permit a longer period provided it does not exceed the economic life of the assets and the circumstances are disclosed in the notes (article 37); this provision will represent an innovation in the UK because it has not been the practice to write off all goodwill systematically

Valuations above historic cost are not generally permitted (article 32); however the conditions under which such valuations may be adopted (article 33) will apply to revaluations which UK companies customarily make in respect of certain assets as well as upon the introduction of current cost accounting; and revaluation surpluses arising are to be placed to a revaluation reserve; only amounts that have previously been charged to the profit and loss account or represent realised surpluses may be credited to the profit and loss account and distributed (article 33.2).

Notes to the accounts: the majority of the information article 43 calls for is already required from UK companies either in the accounts or in the directors' report; however the transfer of information from the latter to the accounts will bring the amounts disclosed within the scope of audit.

Annual report: the requirements to report on the company's likely future development and activities in the field of research and development (article 46) are new for UK companies although many companies already include comment on such matters in the directors' report or chairman's statement.

Exemptions for small and medium companies: articles 11 and 27 set out criteria below which member states may exempt small and medium-sized companies from certain of its requirements. No distinction is made between public and private companies. The Department of Trade has already indicated that it is considering a three-tier system of disclosure and the extent to which it is proposed to take advantage of the permitted exemptions for small and medium-sized companies will be covered in the forthcoming consultative document.

Application: article 1.2 says that member states need not apply the provisions of the directive to banks and other financial institutions and insurance companies. An eight-year derogation from application of the directive to shipping companies is provided in article 55 as are certain derogations for investment companies and financial holding companies as defined in article 5.

Article 1

1 The co-ordination measures prescribed by this Directive shall apply to the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the following types of companies: (other member states' requirements are listed).

In the United Kingdom:
public compaies limited by shares or by guarantee, private companies limited by shares or by guarantee.

2 Pending subsequent co-ordination, the Member States need not apply the provisions of this Directive to banks and other financial institutions or to insurance companies.

Section 1: General provisions

Article 2

1 The annual accounts shall comprise the balance sheet, the profit and loss account and the notes on the accounts. These documents shall constitute a composite whole.

2 They shall be drawn up clearly and in accordance with the provisions of this Directive.

3 The annual accounts shall give a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss.

4 Where the application of the provisions of this Directive would not be sufficient to give a true and fair view within the meaning of paragraph 3, additional information must be given.

5 Where in exceptional cases the application of a provision of this Directive is incompatible with the obligation laid down in paragraph 3, that provision must be departed from in order to give a true and fair view within the meaning of paragraph 3. Any such departure must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts together with an explanation of the reasons for it and a statement of its effect on the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss. The Member States may define the exceptional cases in question and lay down the relevant special rules.

6 The Member States may authorize or require the disclosure in the annual accounts of other information as well as that which must be disclosed in accordance with this Directive.

Section 2: General provisions concerning the balance sheet and the profit and loss account

Article 3

The layout of the balance sheet and of the profit and loss account, particularly as regards the form adopted for their presentation, may not be changed from one financial year to the next. Departures from this principle shall be permitted in exceptional cases. Any such departure must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts together with an explanation of the reasons therefor.

Article 4

1 In the balance sheet and in the profit and loss account the items prescribed in Articles 9, 10 and 23 to 26 must be shown separately in the order indicated. A more detailed subdivision of the items shall be authorised provided that the layouts are complied with. New items may be added provided that their contents are not covered by any of the items prescribed by the layouts. Such subdivision or new items may be required by the Member States.

2 The layout, nomenclature and terminology of items in the balance sheet and profit and loss account that are preceded by Arabic numerals must be adapted where the special nature of an undertaking so requires. Such adaptations may be required by the Member States of undertakings forming part of a particular economic sector.

3 The balance sheet and profit and loss account items that are preceded by Arabic numerals may be combined where:

a they are immaterial in amount for the purposes of Article 2(3), or

b such combination makes for greater clarity, provided that the items so combined are dealt with separately in the notes on the accounts. Such combination may be required by the Member States.

4 In respect of each balance sheet and profit and loss account item the figure relating to the corresponding item for the preceding financial year must be shown. The Member States may provide that, where these figures are not comparable, the figure for the preceding financial year must be adjusted. In any case, non-comparability and any adjustment of the figures must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts, with relevant comments.

5 Save where there is a corresponding item for the preceding financial year within the meaning of paragraph 4, a balance sheet or profit and loss account item for which there is no amount shall not be shown.

Article 5

1 By way of derogation from Article 4(1) and (2), the Member States may prescribe special layouts for the annual accounts of investment companies and of financial holding companies provided that these layouts give a view of these companies equivalent to that provided for in Article 2(3).

2 For the purposes of this Directive 'investment companies' shall mean only:

a those companies the sole object of which is to invest their funds in various securities, real property and other assets with the sole aim of spreading investment risks and giving their shareholders the benefit of the results of the management of their assets;

b those companies associated with investment companies with fixed capital if the sole object of the companies so associated is to acquire fully paid shares issued by those investment companies without prejudice to the provisions of Article 20(1)(h) of Directive 77/91/EEC.

3 For the purposes of this Directive, 'financial holding companies' shall mean only those companies the sole object of which is to acquire holdings in other undertakings, and to manage such holdings and turn them to profit, without involving themselves directly or indirectly in the management of those undertakings, the aforegoing without prejudice to their rights as shareholders. The limitations imposed on the activities of these companies must be such that compliance with them can be supervised by an adminstrative or judicial authority.

Article 6

The Member States may authorise or require adaptation of the layout of the balance sheet and profit and loss account in order to include the appropriation of profit or the treatment of loss.

Article 7

Any set-off between asset and liability items, or between income and expenditure items, shall be prohibited.

Section 3: Layout of the balance sheet

Article 8

For the presentation of the balance sheet, the Member States shall prescribe one or both of the layouts prescribed by Articles 9 and 10. If a Member State prescribes both, it may allow companies to choose between them.

Article 9

Assets

A Subscribed capital unpaid
of which there has been called
(unless national law provides that called-up capital be shown under Liabilities. In that case, the part of the capital called but not yet paid must appear as an asset either under A or under D.II.5)

B Formation expenses
as defined by national law, and insofar as national law permits their being shown as an asset. National law must also provide for formation expenses to be shown as the first item under intangible assets

C Fixed assets

I Intangible assets
1 Costs of research and development, insofar as national law permits their being shown as assets
2 Concessions, patents, licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets, if they were:
a acquired for valuable consideration and need not be shown under C.I.3, or
b created by the undertaking itself, insofar as national law permits their being shown as assets
3 Goodwill, to the extent that it was acquired for valuable consideration
4 Payments on account

II Tangible assets
1 Land and buildings
2 Plant and machinery
3 Other fixtures and fittings, tools and equipment
4 Payments on account and tangible assets in course of construction

III Financial assets
1 Shares in affiliated undertakings
2 Loans to affiliated undertakings
3 Participating interests
4 Loans to undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
5 Investments held as fixed assets
6 Other loans
7 Own shares (with an indication of their nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, their accounting par value) to the extent that national law permits their being shown in the balance sheet

D Current assets

I Stocks
1 Raw materials and consumables
2 Work in progress
3 Finished goods and goods for resale
4 Payments on account

II Debtors
(Amounts becoming due and payable after more than one year must be shown separately for each item)
1 Trade debtors
2 Amounts owed by affiliated undertakings
3 Amounts owed by undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
4 Other debtors
5 Subscribed capital called but not paid (unless national law provides that called-up capital be shown as an asset under A)
6 Prepayments and accrued income (unless national law provides for such items to be shown as an asset under E)

III Investments
1 Shares in affiliated undertakings
2 Own shares (with an indication of their nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, their accounting par value) to the extent that national law permits their being shown in the balance sheet
3 Other investments

IV Cash at bank and in hand

E Prepayments and accrued income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown as an asset under D.II.6)

F Loss for the financial year
(unless national law provides for it to be shown under A.VI. under Liabilities)

Liabilities

A Capital and reserves

I Subscribed capital
(unless national law provides for called-up capital to be shown under this item. In that case, the amounts of subscribed capital and paid-up capital must be shown separately)

II Share premium account

III Revaluation reserve

IV Reserves
1 Legal reserve, insofar as national law requires such a reserve
2 Reserve for own shares, insofar as national law requires such a reserve, without prejudice to Article 22(1)(b) of Directive 77/91/EEC
3 Reserves provided for by the articles of association
4 Other reserves

V Profit or loss brought forward

VI Profit or loss for the financial year
(unless national law requires that this item be shown under F under Assets or under E under Liabilities)

B Provisions for liabilities and charges
1 Provisions for pensions and similar obligations
2 Provisions for taxation
3 Other provisions

C Creditors
(Amounts becoming due and payable within one year and amounts becoming due and payable after more than one year must be shown separately for each item and for the aggregate of these items)
1 Debenture loans, showing convertible loans separately
2 Amounts owed to credit institutions
3 Payments received on account of orders insofar as they are not shown separately as deductions from stocks
4 Trade creditors
5 Bills of exhange payable
6 Amounts owed to affiliated undertakings
7 Amounts owed to undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
8 Other creditors including tax and social security
9 Accruals and deferred income (unless national law provides for such items to be shown under D under Liabilities)

D Accruals and deferred income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown under C.9 under Liabilities)

E Profit for the financial year
(unless national law provides for it to be shown under A.VI under Liabilities)

Article 10

A Subscribed capital unpaid
of which there has been called
(unless national law provides that called-up capital be shown under L. In that case, the part of the capital called but not yet paid must appear either under A or under D.II.5)

B Formation expenses
as defined by national law, and insofar as national law permits their being shown as an asset. National law may also provide for formation expenses to be shown as the first item under Intangible Assets

C Fixed Assets

I Intangible assets
1 Costs of research and development, insofar as national law permits their being shown as assets
2 Concessions, patents, licences, trade marks and similar rights and assets, if they were:
a acquired for valuable consideration and need not be shown under C.I.3, or
b created by the undertaking itself, insofar as national law permits their being shown as assets
3 Goodwill, to the extent that it was acquired for valuable consideration
4 Payments on account

II Tangible assets
1 Land and buildings
2 Plant and machinery
3 Other fixtures and fittings, tools and equipment
4 Payments on account and tangible assets in course of construction

III Financial assets
1 Shares in affiliated undertakings
2 Loans to affiliated undertakings
3 Participating interests
4 Loans to undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
5 Investments held as fixed assets
6 Other loans
7 Own shares (with an indication of their nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, their accounting par value) to the extent that national law permits their being shown in the balance sheet

D Current assets
I Stocks
1 Raw materials and consumables
2 Work in progress
3 Finished goods and goods for resale
4 Payments on account

II Debtors
(Amounts becoming due and payable after more than one year must be shown separately for each item)
1 Trade debtors
2 Amounts owed by affiliated undertakings
3 Amounts owed by undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
4 Other debtors
5 Subscribed capital called but not paid (unless national law provides that called-up capital be shown under A).
6 Prepayments and accrued income (unless national law provides that such items be shown under E)

III Investments
1 Shares in affiliated undertakings
2 Own shares (with an indication of their nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, their accounting par value) to the extent that national law permits their being shown in the balance sheet
3 Other investments

IV Cash at bank and in hand

E Prepayments and accrued income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown under D.II.6)

F Creditors: amounts becoming due and payable within one year
1 Debenture loans, showing convertible loans separately
2 Amounts owed to credit institutions
3 Payments received on account of orders insofar as they are not shown separately as deductions from stocks
4 Trade creditors
5 Bills of exchange payable
6 Amounts owed to affiliated undertakings
7 Amounts owed to undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
8 Other creditors including tax and social security
9 Accruals and deferred income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown under K)

G Net current assets/liabilities (taking into account prepayments and accrued income when shown under E and accruals and deferred income when shown under K)

H Total assets less current liabilities

I Creditors: amounts becoming due and payable after more than one year
1 Debenture loans, showing convertible loans separately
2 Amounts owed to credit institutions
3 Payments received on account of orders insofar as they are not shown separately as deductions from stocks
4 Trade creditors
5 Bills of exchange payable
6 Amounts owed to affiliated undertakings
7 Amounts owed to undertakings with which the company is linked by virtue of participating interests
8 Other creditors including tax and social security
9 Accruals and deferred income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown under K)

J Provisions for liabilities and charges
1 Provisions for pensions and similar obligations
2 Provisions for taxation
3 Other provisions

K Accruals and deferred income
(unless national law provides for such items to be shown under F.9 or I.9 or both)

L Capital and Reserves
I Subscribed capital
(unless national law provides for called-up capital to be shown under this item. In that case, the amounts of subscribed capital and paid-up capital must be shown separately)
II Share premium account
III Revaluation reserve
IV Reserves
1 Legal reserve, insofar as national law requires such a reserve
2 Reserve for own shares, insofar as national law requires such a reserve, without prejudice to Article 22(1)(b) of Directive 77/91/EEC
3 Reserves provided for by the articles of association
4 Other reserves
V Profit or loss brought forward
VI Profit or loss for the financial year

Article 11

The Member States may permit companies which on their balance sheet dates do not exceed the limits of two of the three following criteria:
balance sheet total: 1 000 000 Eua
net turnover: 2 000 000 Eua
average number of employees during the financial year: 50
to draw up abridged balance sheets showing only those items preceded by letters and Roman numerals in Articles 9 and 10, disclosing separately the information required in brackets in items D.II under Assets and C under Liabilities in Article 9 and in item D.II in Article 10, but in total for each.

Article 12

1 Where on its balance sheet date, a company exceeds or ceases to exceed the limits of two of the three criteria indicated in Article 11, that fact shall affect the application of the derogation provided for in that Article only if it occurs in two consecutive financial years.
2 For the purposes of translation into national currencies, the amounts in European units of account specified in Article 11 may be increased by not more than 10 per cent.
3 The balance sheet total referred to in Article 11 shall consist of the assets in items A to E under Assets in the layout prescribed in Article 9 or those in items A to E in the layout prescribed in Article 10.

Article 13

1 Where an asset or liability relates to more than one layout item, its relationship to other items must be disclosed either under the item where it appears or in the notes on the accounts, if such disclosure is essential to the comprehension of the annual accounts.
2 Own shares and shares in affiliated undertakings may be shown only under the items prescribed for that purpose.

Article 14

All commitments by way of guarantee of any kind must, if there is no obligation to show them as liabilities, be clearly set out at the foot of the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts, and a distinction made between the various types of guarantee which national law recognises; specific disclosure must be made of any valuable security which has been provided. Commitments of this kind existing in respect of affiliated undertakings must be shown separately.

Section 4: Special provisions relating to certain balance sheet items

Article 15

1 Whether particular assets are to be shown as fixed assets or current assets shall depend upon the purpose for which they are intended.
2 Fixed assets shall comprise those assets which are intended for use on a continuing basis for the purposes of the undertaking's activities.
3a Movements in the various fixed asset items shall be shown in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts. To this end there shall be shown separately, starting with the purchase price or production cost, for each fixed asset item, on the one hand the additions, disposals and transfers during the financial year and on the other hand the cumulative value adjustments at the balance sheet date and the rectifications made during the financial year to the value adjustments of previous financial years. Value adjustments shall be shown either in the balance sheet, as clear deductions from the relevant items, or in the notes on the accounts.
b If, when annual accounts are drawn up in accordance with this Directive for the first time, the purchase price or production cost of a fixed asset cannot be determined without undue expense or delay, the residual value at the beginning of the financial year may be treated as the purchase price or production cost. Any application of this provision must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.
c Where Article 33 is applied, the movements in the various fixed asset items referred to in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph shall be shown starting with the purchase price or production cost resulting from revaluation.
4 Paragraph 3(a) and (b) shall apply to the presentation of Formation Expenses.

Article 16

Rights to immovables and other similar rights as defined by national law must be shown under Land and Buildings.

Article 17

For the purposes of this Directive, "participating interest" shall mean rights in the capital of other undertakings, whether or not represented by certificates, which, by creating a durable link with those undertakings, are intended to contribute to the company's activities. The holding of part of the capital of another company shall be presumed to constitute a participating interest where it exceeds a percentage fixed by the Member States which may not exceed 20 per cent.

Article 18

Expenditure incurred during the financial year but relating to a subsequent financial year, together with any income which, though relating to the financial year in question, is not due until after its expiry must be shown under Prepayments and Accrued Income. The Member States may, however, provide that such income shall be included in Debtors. Where such income is material, it must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.

Article 19

Value adjustments shall comprise all adjustments intended to take account of reductions in the values of individual assets established at the balance sheet date whether that reduction is final or not.

Article 20

1 Provisions for liabilities and charges are intended to cover losses or debts the nature of which is clearly defined and which at the date of the balance sheet are either likely to be incurred, or certain to be incurred but uncertain as to amount or as to the date on which they will arise.
2 The Member States may also authorise the creation of provisions intended to cover charges which have their origin in the financial year under review or in a previous financial year, the nature of which is clearly defined and which at the date of the balance sheet are either likely to be incurred, or certain to be incurred but uncertain as to amount or as to the date on which they will arise.
3 Provisions for liabilities and charges may not be used to adjust the values of assets.

Article 21

Income receivable before the balance sheet date but relating to a subsequent financial year, together with any charges which, though relating to the financial year in question, will be paid only in the course of a subsequent financial year, must be shown under Accruals and Deferred Income. The Member States may, however, provide that such charges shall be included in Creditors. Where such charges are material, they must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.

Section 5: Layout of the profit and loss account

Article 22

For the presentation of the profit and loss account, the Member States shall prescribe one or more of the layouts provided for in Articles 23 to 26. If a Member State prescribes more than one layout, it may allow companies to choose from among them.

Article 23

1 Net turnover
2 Variation in stocks of finished goods and in work in progress
3 Work performed by the undertaking for its own purposes and capitalised
4 Other operating income
5a Raw materials and consumables
b Other external charges
6 Staff costs
a Wages and salaries
b Social security costs, with a separate indication of those relating to pensions
7a Value adjustments in respect of formation expenses and of tangible and intangible fixed assets
b Value adjustments in respect of current assets, to the extent that they exceed the amount of value ajustments which are normal in the undertaking concerned
8 Other operating charges
9 Income from participating interests, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
10 income from other investments and loans forming part of the fixed assets, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
11 Other interest receivable and similar income, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
12 Value adjustments in respect of financial assets and of investments held as current assets
13 Interest payable and similar charges, with a separate indication of those concerning affiliated undertakings
14 Tax on profit or loss on ordinary activities
15 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
16 Extraordinary income
17 Extraordinary charges
18 Extraordinary profit or loss
19 Tax on extraordinary profit or loss
20 Other taxes not shown under the above items
21 Profit or loss for the financial year

Article 24

A. Charges
1 Reduction in stocks of finished goods and in work in progress
2a Raw materials and consumables
b Other external charges
3 Staff costs
a Wages and salaries
b Social security costs, with a separate indication of those relating to pensions
4a Value adjustments in respect of formation expenses and of tangible and intangible fixed assets
b Value adjustments in respect of current assets, to the extent that they exceed the amount of value adjustments which are normal in the undertaking concerned
5 Other operating charges
6 Value adjustments in respect of financial assets and of investments held as current assets
7 Interest payable and similar charges, with a separate indication of those concerning affiliated undertakings
8 Tax on profit or loss on ordinary activities
9 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
10 Extraordinary charges
11 Tax on extraordinary profit or loss
12 Other taxes not shown under the above items
13 Profit or loss for the financial year

B Income:
1 Net turnover
2 Increase in stocks of finished goods and in work in progress
3 Work performed by the undertaking for its own purposes and capitalised
4 Other operating income
5 Income from participating interests, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
6 Income from other investments and loans forming part of the fixed assets, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
7 Other interest receivable and similar income, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
8 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
9 Extraordinary income
10 Profit or loss for the financial year.

Article 25

1 Net turnover
2 Cost of sales (including value adjustments)
3 Gross profit or loss
4 Distribution costs (including value adjustments)
5 Administrative expenses (including value adjustments)
6 Other operating income
7 Income from participating interests, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
8 Income from other investments and loans forming part of the fixed assets, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
9 Other interest receivable and similar income, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
10 Value adjustments in respect of financial assets and of investments held as current assets
11 Interest payable and similar charges, with a separate indication of those concerning affiliated undertakings
12 Tax on profit or loss on ordinary activities
13 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
14 Extraordinary income
15 Extraordinary charges
16 Extraordinary profit or loss
17 Tax on extraordinary profit or loss
18 Other taxes not shown under the above items
19 Profit or loss for the financial year

Article 26

A Charges:
1 Cost of sales (including value adjustments)
2 Distribution costs (including value adjustments)
3 Administrative expenses (including value adjustments)
4 Value adjustments in respect of financial assets and of investments held as current assets
5 Interest payable and similar charges, with a separate indication of those concerning affiliated undertakings
6 Tax on profit or loss on ordinary activities
7 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
8 Extraordinary charges
9 Tax on extraordinary profit or loss
10 Other taxes not shown under the above items
11 Profit or loss for the financial year
B Income
1 Net turnover
2 Other operating income
3 Income from participating interests, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
4 Income from other investments and loans forming part of the fixed assets, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
5 Other interest receivable and similar income, with a separate indication of that derived from affiliated undertakings
6 Profit or loss on ordinary activities after taxation
7 Extraordinary income
8 Profit or loss for the financial year

Article 27

The Member States may permit companies which on their balance sheet dates do not exceed the limits of two of the three following criteria:
balance sheet total 4 million Eua
net turnover 8 million Eua
average number of employees during the financial year 250
to adopt layouts different from those prescribed in Articles 23 to 26 within the following limits:
a in Article 23: items 1 to 5 inclusive may be combined under one item called Gross profit or loss;
b in Article 24: items A.1, A.2 and B.1 to B.4 inclusive may be combined under one item called Gross profit or loss;
c in Article 25: items 1, 2, 3 and 6 may be combined under one item called Gross profit or loss;
d in Article 26, items A.1, B.1 and B.2 may be combined under one item called Gross profit or loss.
Article 12 shall apply.

Section 6: Special provisions relating to certain items in the profit and loss account

Article 28

The net turnover shall comprise the amounts derived from the sale of products and the provision of services falling within the company's ordinary activities, after deduction of sales rebates and of value added tax and other taxes directly linked to the turnover.

Article 29

1 Income and charges that arise otherwise than in the course of the company's ordinary activities must be shown under Extraordinary Income and Extraordinary Charges.
2 Unless the income and charges referred to in paragraph 1 are immaterial for the assessment of the results, explanations of their amount and nature must be given in the notes on the accounts. The same shall apply to income and charges relating to another financial year.

Article 30

The Member States may permit taxes on the profit or loss on ordinary activities and taxes on the extraordinary profit or loss to be shown in total as one item in the profit and loss account before Other taxes not shown under the above items. In that case, Profit or Loss on ordinary activities after taxation shall be omitted from the layouts prescribed in Articles 23 to 26.
Where this derogation is applied, companies must disclose in the notes on the accounts the extent to which the taxes on the profit or loss affect the profit or loss on ordinary activities and the Extraordinary Profit or Loss.

Section 7: Valuation rules

Article 31

1 The Member States shall ensure that the items shown in the annual accounts are valued in accordance with the following general principles:
a the company must be presumed to be carrying on its business as a going concern;
b the methods of valuation must be applied consistently from one financial year to another;
c valuation must be made on a prudent basis, and in particular:
aa only profits made at the balance sheet date may be included;
bb account must be taken of all foreseeable liabilities and potential losses arising in the course of the financial year concerned or of a previous one, even if such liabilities or losses become apparent only between the date of the balance sheet and the date on which it is drawn up;
cc account must be taken of all depreciation, whether the result of the financial year is a loss or a profit;
d account must be taken of income and charges relating to the financial year, irrespective of the date of receipt or payment of such income or charges;
e the components of asset and liability items must be valued separately;
f the opening balance sheet for each financial year must correspond to the closing balance sheet for the preceding financial year.
2 Departures from these general principles shall be permitted in exceptional cases. Any such departures must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts and the reasons for them given together with an assessment of their effect on the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss.

Article 32

The items shown in the annual accounts shall be valued in accordance with Articles 34 to 42, which are based on the principle of purchase price or production cost.

Article 33

1 The Member States may declare to the Commission that they reserve the power, by way of derogation from Article 32 and pending subsequent co-ordination, to permit or require in respect of all companies or any classes of companies:
a valuation by the replacement value method for tangible fixed assets with limited useful economic lives and for stocks;
b valuation by methods other than that provided for in (a) which are designed to take account of inflation for the items shown in annual accounts, including capital and reserves;
c revaluation of tangible fixed assets and financial fixed assets.
Where national law provides for valuation methods as indicated in a, b and c, it must define their content and limits and the rules for their application.
The application of any such method, the balance sheet and profit and loss account items concerned and the method by which the values shown are calculated shall be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.
2a Where paragraph 1 is applied, the amount of the difference between valuation by the method used and valuation in accordance with the general rule laid down in Article 32 must be entered in the Revaluation Reserve under Liabilities. The treatment of this item for taxation purposes must be explained either in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts.
For purposes of the application of the last subparagraph of paragraph 1, companies shall, whenever the amount of the Reserve has been changed in the course of the financial year, publish in the notes on the accounts inter alia a table showing:
the amount of the Revaluation Reserve at the beginning of the financial year;
the revaluation differences transferred to the Revaluation Reserve during the financial year;
the amounts capitalised or otherwise transferred from the Revaluation Reserve during the financial year, the nature of any such transfer being disclosed;
the amount of the Revaluation Reserve at the end of the financial year.
b The Revaluation Reserve may be capitalised in whole or in part at any time.
c The Revaluation Reserve must be reduced to the extent that the amounts transferred thereto are no longer necessary for the implementation of the valuation method used and the achievement of its purpose.
The Member States may lay down rules governing the application of the Revaluation Reserve, provided that transfers to the profit and loss account from the Revaluation Reserve may be made only to the extent that the amounts transferred have been entered as charges in the profit and loss account or reflect increases in value which have been actually realised. These amounts must be disclosed separately in the profit and loss account. No part of the Revaluation Reserve may be distributed, either directly or indirectly, unless it represents gains actually realised.
d Save as provided under (b) and (c) the Revaluation Reserve may not be reduced.
3 Value adjustments shall be calculated each year on the basis of the value adopted for the financial year in question, save that by way of derogation from Articles 4 and 22, the Member States may permit or require that only the amount of the value adjustments arising as a result of the application of the general rule laid down in Article 32 be shown under the relevant items in the layouts prescribed in Articles 23 to 26 and that the difference arising as a result of the valuation method adopted under this Article be shown separately in the layouts. Furthermore, Articles 34 to 42 shall apply mutatis mutandis.
4 Where paragraph 1 is applied, the following must be disclosed, either in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts, separately for each balance sheet item as provided for in the layouts prescribed in Articles 9 and 10, except for stocks, either:
a the amount at the balance sheet date of the valuation made in accordance with the general rule laid down in Article 32 and the amount of the cumulative value adjustments, or
b the amount at the balance sheet date of the difference between the valuation made in accordance with this Article and that resulting from the application of Article 32 and, where appropriate, the cumulative amount of the additional value adjustments.
5 Without prejudice to Article 52 the Council shall, on a proposal from the Commission and within seven years of the notification of this Directive, examine and, where necessary, amend this Article in the light of economic and monetary trends in the Community.

Article 34

1a Where national law authorises the inclusion of formation expenses under Assets, they must be written off within a maximum period of five years.
b Insofar as formation expenses have not been completely written off, no distribution of profits shall take place unless the amount of the reserves available for distribution and profits brought forward is at least equal to that of the expenses not written off.
2 The amounts entered under Formation Expenses must be explained in the notes on the accounts.

Article 35

1a Fixed assets must be valued at purchase price or production cost, without prejudice to (b) and (c) below.
b The purchase price or production cost of fixed assets with limited useful economic lives must be reduced by value adjustments calculated to write off the value of such assets systematically over their useful economic lives.
c aa Value adjustments may be made in respect of financial fixed assets, so that they are valued at the lower figure to be attributed to them at the balance sheet date.
bb Value adjustments must be made in respect of fixed assets, whether their useful economic lives are limited or not, so that they are valued at the lower figure to be attributed to them at the balance sheet date if it is expected that the reduction in their value will be permanent.
cc The value adjustments referred to in (aa) and (bb) must be charged to the profit and loss account and disclosed separately in the notes on the accounts if they have not been shown separately in the profit and loss account.
dd Valuation at the lower of the values provided for in (aa) and (bb) may not be continued if the reasons for which the value adjustments were made have ceased to apply.
d If fixed assets are the subject of exceptional value adjustments for taxation purposes alone, the amount of the adjustments and the reasons for making them shall be indicated in the notes on the accounts.
2 The purchase price shall be calculated by adding to the price paid the expenses incidental thereto.
3a The production cost shall be calculated by adding to the purchase price of the raw materials and consumables the costs directly attributable to the product in question.
b A reasonable proportion of the costs which are only indirectly attributable to the product in question may be added into the production costs to the extent that they relate to the period of production.
4 Interest on capital borrowed to finance the production of fixed assets may be included in the production costs to the extent that it relates to the period of production. In that event, the inclusion of such interest under Assets must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.

Article 36

By way of derogation from Article 35(1)(c)(cc), the Member States may allow investment companies within the meaning of Article 5(2) to set off value adjustments to investments directly against Capital and Reserves. The amounts in question must be shown separately under Liabilities in the balance sheet.

Article 37

1 Article 34 shall apply to Costs of Research and Development. In exceptional cases, however, the Member States may permit derogations from Article 34(1)(a). In that case, they may also provide for derogations from Article 34(1)(b). Such derogations and the reasons for them must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.
2 Article 34(1)(a) shall apply to Goodwill. The Member States may, however, permit companies to write goodwill off systematically over a limited period exceeding five years provided that this period does not exceed the useful economic life of the asset and is disclosed in the notes on the accounts together with the supporting reasons therefor.

Article 38

Tangible fixed assets, raw materials and consumables which are constantly being replaced and the overall value of which is of secondary importance to the undertaking may be shown under Assets at a fixed quantity and value, if the quantity, value and composition thereof do not vary materially.

Article 39

1a Current assets must be valued at purchase price or production cost, without prejudice to (b) and (c) below.
b Value adjustments shall be made in respect of current assets with a view to showing them at the lower market value or, in particular circumstances, another lower value to be attributed to them at the balance sheet date.
c The Member States may permit exceptional value adjustments where, on the basis of a reasonable commercial assessment, these are necessary if the valuation of these items is not to be modified in the near future because of fluctuations in value. The amount of these value adjustments must be disclosed separately in the profit and loss account or in the notes on the accounts.

d Valuation at the lower value provided for in (b) and (c) may not be continued if the reasons for which the value adjustments were made have ceased to apply.
e If current assets are the subject of exceptional value adjustments for taxation purposes alone, the amount of the adjustments and the reasons for making them must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.
2 The definitions of purchase price and of production cost given in Article 35(2) and (3) shall apply. The Member States may also apply Article 35(4). Distribution costs may not be included in production costs.

Article 40

1 The Member States may permit the purchase price or production cost of stocks of goods of the same category and all fungible items including investments to be calculated either on the basis of weighted average prices or by the "First In, First Out" (FIFO) method, the "Last In, First Out" (LIFO) method, or some similar method.
2 Where the value shown in the balance sheet, following application of the methods of calculation specified in paragraph 1, differs materially, at the balance sheet date, from the value on the basis of the last known market value prior to the balance sheet date, the amount of that difference must be disclosed in total by category in the notes on the accounts.

Article 41

1 Where the amount repayable on account of any debt is greater than the amount received, the difference may be shown as an asset. It must be shown separately in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts.
2 The amount of this difference must be written off by a reasonable amount each year and completely written off no later than the time of repayment of the debt.

Article 42

Provisions for Liabilities and Charges may not exceed in amount the sums which are necessary.
The provisions shown in the balance sheet under Other Provisions must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts if they are material.

Section 8: Contents of the notes on the accounts

Article 43

1 In addition to the information required under other provisions of this Directive, the notes on the accounts must set out information in respect of the following matters at least:
1 the valuation methods applied to the various items in the annual accounts, and the methods employed in calculating the value adjustments. For items included in the annual accounts which are or were originally expressed in foreign currency, the bases of conversion used to express them in local currency must be disclosed;
2 the name and registered office of each of the undertakings in which the company, either itself or through a person acting in his own name but on the company's behalf, holds at least a percentage of the capital which the Member States cannot fix at more than 20 per cent, showing the proportion of the capital held, the amount of capital and reserve, and the profit or loss for the latest financial year of the undertaking concerned for which accounts have been adopted. This information may be omitted where for the purposes of Article 2(3) it is of negligible importance only. The information concerning capital and reserves and the profit or loss may also be omitted where the undertaking concerned does not publish its balance sheet and less than 50 per cent of its capital is held (directly or indirectly) by the company;
3 the number and the nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, the accounting par value of the shares subscribed during the financial year within the limits of an authorised capital, without prejudice as far as the amount of this capital is concerned to Article 2(1)(e) of Directive 68/151/EEC or to Article 2(c) of Directive 77/91/EEC.
4 where there is more than one class of shares, the number and the nominal value or, in the absence of a nominal value, the accounting par value for each class;
5 the existence of any participation certificates, convertible debentures or similar securities or rights, with an indication of their number and the rights they confer;
6 amounts owed by the company becoming due and payable after more than five years as well as the company's entire debts covered by valuable security furnished by the company with an indication of the nature and form of the security. This information must be disclosed separately for each Creditors item, as provided for in the layouts prescribed in Articles 9 and 10;
7 the total amount of any financial commitments that are not included in the balance sheet, insofar as this information is of assistance in assessing the financial position. Any commitments concerning pensions and affiliated undertakings must be disclosed separately;
8 the net turnover within the meaning of Article 28, broken down by categories of activity and into geographical markets insofar as, taking account of the manner in which the sale of products and the provision of services falling within the company's ordinary activities are organised, these categories and markets differ substantially from one another;
9 the average number of persons employed during the financial year, broken down by categories and, if they are not disclosed separately in the profit and loss account, the staff costs relating to the financial year, broken down as provided for in Article 23(6);
10 the extent to which the calculation of the profit or loss for the financial year has been affected by a valuation of the items which, by way of derogation from the principles enunciated in Articles 31 and 34 to 42, was made in the financial year in question or in an earlier financial year with a view to obtaining tax relief. Where the influence of such a valuation on future tax charges is material, details must be disclosed;
11 the difference between the tax charged for the financial year and for earlier financial years and the amount of tax payable in respect of those years, provided that this difference is material for purposes of future taxation. This amount may also be disclosed in the balance sheet as a cumulative amount under a separate item with an appropriate heading;
12 the amount of the emoluments granted in respect of the financial year to the members of the administrative, managerial and supervisory bodies by reason of their responsibilities, and any commitments arising or entered into in respect of retirement pensions for former members of those bodies, with an indication of the total for each category;
13 the amount of advances and credits granted to the members of the administrative, managerial and supervisory bodies, with indications of the interest rates, main conditions and any amounts repaid, as well as commitments entered into on their behalf by way of guarantees of any kind, with an indication of the total for each category;
2 Pending subsequent co-ordination, the Member States need not apply paragraph 1(2) to financial holding companies within the meaning of Article 5(3).

Article 44

The Member States may permit the companies referred to in Article 11 to draw up abridged notes on their accounts without the information required in Article 43(1)(5) to (12). However, the notes must disclose the information specified in Article 43(1)(6) in total for all the items concerned.
Article 12 shall apply.

Article 45

1 The Member States may allow the disclosures prescribed in Article 43(1)(2):
a to take the form of a statement deposited in accordance with Article 3(1) and (2) of Directive 68/151/EEC; this must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts;
b to be omitted when their nature is such that they would be seriously prejudicial to any of the undertakings to which Article 43(1)(2) relates. The Member States may make such omissions subject to prior administrative or judicial authorisation. Any such omission must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts.
2 Paragraph 1(b) shall also apply to the information prescribed in Article 43(1)(8).
The Member States may permit the companies referred to in Article 27 to omit the disclosures prescribed by Article 43(1)(8). Article 12 shall apply.

Section 9: Contents of the annual report

Article 46

1 The annual report must include at least a fair review of the development of the company's business and of its position.
2 The report shall also give an indication of:
a any important events that have occurred since the end of the financial year;
b the company's likely future development;
c activities in the field of research and development;
d the information concerning acquisitions of own shares prescribed by Article 22(2) of Directive 77/91/EEC.

Section 10: Publication

Article 47

1 The annual accounts, duly approved, and the annual report, together with the opinion submitted by the person responsible for auditing the accounts, shall be published as laid down by the laws of each Member State in accordance with Article 3 of Directive 68/151/EEC.
The laws of a Member State may, however, permit the annual report not to be published as stipulated above. In that case, it shall be made available to the public at the company's registered office in the Member State concernced. It must be possible to obtain a copy of all or part of any such report free of charge upon request.
2 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, the Member States may permit the companies referred to in Article 11 to publish:
a abridged balance sheets showing only those items preceded by letters and Roman numerals in Articles 9 and 10, disclosing separately the information required in brackets in items D.II under Assets and C under Liabilities in Article 9 and in item D.II in Article 10, but in total for all the items concerned, and
b abridged notes on their accounts without the explanations required in Article 43(1)(5) to (12). However, the notes must disclose the information specified in Article 43(1)(6) in total for all the items concerned.
Article 12 shall apply
In addition, the Member States may relieve such companies from the obligation to publish their profit and loss accounts and annual reports and the opinions of the persons responsible for auditing the accounts.
3 The Member States may permit the companies mentioned in Article 27 to publish:
a Abridged balance sheets showing only those items preceded by letters and Roman numerals in Articles 9 and 10 disclosing separately, either in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts:
items C.I.3, C.II.1, 2, 3 and 4, C.III.1, 2, 3, 4 and 7, D.II.2, 3 and 6 and D.III.1 and 2 under Assets and items C.1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 under Liabilities in Article 9;
items C.I.3, C.II.1, 2, 3 and 4, C.III.1, 2, 3, 4 and 7, D.II.2, 3 and 6, D.III.1 and 2, F.1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 and I.1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 in Article 10;
the information required in brackets in item D.II under Assets and C under Liabilities in Article 9, in total for all the items concerned and separately for items D.II.2 and 3 under Assets and C.1, 2, 6, 7 and 9 under Liabilities;
the information required in brackets in item D.II in Article 10, in total for all the items concerned, and separately for items D.II.2 and 3;
b abridged notes on their accounts without the information required in Article 43(1), (5), (6), (8), (10) and (11). However, the notes on the accounts must give the information specified in Article 43(1)(6) in total for all the items concerned.
This paragraph shall be without prejudice to paragraph 1 insofar as it relates to the profit and loss account, the annual report and the opinion of the person responsible for auditing the accounts.
Article 12 shall apply.

Article 48

Whenever the annual accounts and the annual report are published in full, they must be reproduced in the form and text on the bassis of which the person responsible for auditing the accounts has drawn up his opinion. They must be accompanied by the full text of his report. If the person responsible for auditing the accounts has made any qualifications or refused to report upon the accounts, that fact must be disclosed and the reasons given.

Article 49

If the annual accounts are not published in full, it must be indicated that the version published is abridged and reference must be made to the register in which the accounts have been filed in accordance with Article 47(1). Where such filing has not yet been effected, the fact must be disclosed. The report issued by the person responsible for auditing the accounts may not accompany this publication, but it must be disclosed whether the report was issued with or without qualification, or was refused.

Article 50

The following must be published together with the annual accounts, and in like manner:
the proposed appropriation of the profit or treatment of the loss,
the appropriation of the profit or treatment of the loss
where these items do not appear in the annual accounts.

Section 11: Auditing

Article 51

1a Companies must have their annual accounts audited by one or more persons authorised by national law to audit accounts.
b The person or persons responsible for auditing the accounts must also verify that the annual report is consistent with the annual accounts for the same financial year.
2 The Member States may relieve the companies referred to in Article 11 from the obligation imposed by paragraph 1.
Article 12 shall apply.
3 Where the exemption provided for in paragraph 2 is granted the Member States shall introduce appropriate sanctions into their laws for cases in which the annual accounts or the annual reports of such companies are not drawn up in accordance with the requirements of this Directive.

Section 12: Final provisions

Article 52

1 A Contact Committee shall be set up under the auspices of the Commission. Its function shall be:
a to facilitate, without prejudice to the provisions of Articles 169 and 170 of the Treaty, harmonised application of this Directive through regular meetings dealing in particular with practical problems arising in connection with its application;
b to advise the Commission, if necessary, on additons or amendments to this Directive.
2 The Contact Committee shall be composed of representatives of the Member States and representatives of the Commission. The chairman shall be a representative of the Commission. The Commission shall provide the Secretariat.
3 The Committee shall be convened by the Chairman either on his own initiative or at the request of one of its members.

Article 53

1 For the purposes of this Directive, the European unit of account shall be that defined by Commission Decision No 3289/75/ECSC of 18 December 1975. The equivalent in national currency shall be calculated initially at the rate obtaining on the date of adoption of this Directive.
2 Every five years the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, shall examine and, if need be, revise the amounts expressed in European units of account in this Directive, in the light of economic and monetary trends in the Community.

Article 54

This Directive shall not affect laws in the Member States requiring that the annual accounts of companies not falling within their jurisdiction be filed in a register in which branches of such companies are listed.

Article 55

1 The Member States shall bring into force the laws, and regulations and administrative provisions necessary for them to comply with this Directive within two years of its notification. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.
2 The Member States may stipulate that the provisions referred

to in paragraph 1 shall not apply until 18 months after the end of the period provided for in that paragraph.

That period of 18 months may, however, be five years:
a in the case of unregistered companies in the United Kingdom and Ireland;
b for purposes of the application of Articles 9 and 10 and Articles 23 to 26 concerning the layouts for the balance sheet and the profit and loss account, where a Member State has brought other layouts for these documents into force not more than three years before the notification of this Directive;
c for purposes of the application of this Directive as regards the calculation and disclosure in balance sheets of depreciation relating to assets covered by the asset items mentioned in Article 9, C.II.2 and 3, and Article 10, C.II.2 and 3;
d for purposes of the application of Article 47(1) of this Directive except as regards companies already under an obligation of publication under Article 2(1)(f) of Directive 68/151/EEC. In this case the second subparagraph of Article 47(1) of this Directive shall apply to the annual accounts and to the opinion drawn up by the person responsible for auditing the accounts;
e for purposes of the application of Article 51(1) of this Directive.

Furthermore, this period of 18 months may be extended to eight years for companies the principal object of which is shipping and which are already in existence on the entry into force of the provisions referred to in paragraph 1.

3 The Member States shall ensure that they communicate to the Commission the texts of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

Article 56

The obligation to show in the annual accounts the items prescribed by Articles 9, 10 and 23 to 26 which relate to affiliated undertakings, and the obligation to provide information concerning these undertakings in accordance with Articles 13(2), 14 or 43(1)(7), shall enter into force at the same time as a Council Directive on consolidated accounts.

Article 57

1 Until the entry into force of a Council Directive on consolidated accounts, and without prejudice to the provisions of Directives 68/151/EEC and 77/91/EEC, the Member States need not apply to the dependent companies of any group governed by their national laws the provisions of this Directive concerning the content, auditing and publication of the annual accounts of such dependent companies where the following conditions are fulfilled:
a the dominant company must be subject to the laws of a Member State;
b all shareholders or members of the dependent company must have declared their agreement to the exemption from such obligation; this declaration must be made in respect of every financial year;
c the dominant company must have declared that it guarantees the commitments entered into by the dependent company;
d the declarations referred to in (b) and (c) must be published by the dependent company in accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 47(1);
e the annual accounts of the dependent company must be consolidated in the group's annual accounts;
f the exemption concerning the preparation, auditing and publication of the annual accounts of the dependent company must be disclosed in the notes on the group's annual accounts.

2 Articles 47 and 51 shall apply to the group's annual accounts.

3 Articles 2 to 46 shall apply as far as possible to the group's annual accounts.

Article 58

1 Until the entry into force of a Council Directive on consolidated accounts, and without prejudice to the provisions of Directive 77/91/EEC, the Member States need not apply to the dominant companies of groups governed by their national laws the provisions of this Directive concerning the auditing and publication of the profit and loss accounts of such dominant companies where the following conditions are fulfilled:
a this exemption must be published by the dominant company in accordance with Article 47(1):
b the annual accounts of the dominant company must be consolidated in the group's annual accounts;
c the exemption concerning the auditing and publication of the profit and loss account of the dominant company must be mentioned in the notes on the group's annual accounts;
d the profit or loss of the dominant company, determined in accordance with the principles of this Directive, must be shown in the balance sheet of the dominant company.

2 Articles 47 and 51 shall apply to the group's annual accounts.

3 Articles 2 to 46 shall apply as far as possible to the group's annual accounts.

Article 59

Pending subsequent co-ordination, the Member States may permit the valuation of holdings in affiliated undertakings by the equity method provided the following conditions are fulfilled:
a the use of this method of valuation must be disclosed in the notes on the accounts of a company having such holdings;
b the amount of any differences existing when such holdings were acquired between their purchase price and the percentage of the capital which they represent, including the affiliated undertaking's reserves, profit and loss and profits and losses brought forward, must be shown separately in the balance sheet or in the notes on the accounts of a company having such holdings;
c the purchase price of these holdings shall be increased or reduced in the balance sheet of a company having such holdings by the profits or losses realised by the affiliated undertaking according to the percentage of capital held;
d the amounts specified in sub-paragraph (c) shall be shown each year in the profit and loss account of a company having such holdings as a separate item with an appropriate heading;
e when an affiliated undertaking distributes dividends to a company having such holdings, their book values shall be reduced accordingly;
f when the amounts shown in the profit and loss account in accordance with sub-paragraph (d) exceed the amounts of dividends already received or the payment of which can be claimed, the amount of the differences must be placed in a reserve which cannot be distributed to shareholders.

Article 60

Pending subsequent co-ordination, the Member States may prescribe that investments in which investment companies within the meaning of Article 5(2) have invested their funds shall be valued on the basis of their market value.

In that case, the Member States may also waive the obligation on investment companies with variable capital to show separately the value adjustments referred to in Article 36.

Article 61

Until the entry into force of a Council Directive on consolidated accounts, the Member States need not apply to the dominant companies of groups governed by their national laws the provisions of Article 43(1)(2) concerning the amount of capital and reserves and the profits and losses of the undertakings concerned if the annual accounts of such undertakings are consolidated into the group's annual accounts or if the holdings in those undertakings are valued by the equity method.

Article 62

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

New EEC documents

These EEC documents were deposited in the House of Commons in the seven days to 27 July (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses). The commission documents are available for consultation at the European Commission Communities Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

Draft instruments

R/1890/78 (COM(78)328 FINAL)
Draft proposal for a supplementary council estimate of young male bovine animals weighing 300 kilograms or less intended for fattening for the period to 31 December 1978.

R/1872/78 (COM(78)315 FINAL)
Proposal for a council regulation on the granting of aid for the consumption of butter in Italy.

R/1930/78 (COM(78)319 FINAL)
Proposal for a council decision on the memorandum of understanding of 2 March 1978 between certain maritime authorities on the maintenance of standards on merchant ships.

R/1936/78 (COM(78)321 FINAL)
Recommendation for a council decision concluding the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Economic Community and the Bank for International Settlements concerning the mobilisation of claims held by member states under the medium-term financial assistance arrangements.

R/1955/78 (COM(78)344 FINAL)
Recommendations for council regulations: on the conclusion of agreements in the form of exchanges of letters on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar from the ACP states and the Republic of India; fixing the guaranteed prices for cane sugar from the OCT, for 1978-79.

R/1957/78 (COM(78)346 FINAL)
Proposal for a council regulation amending regulation (EEC) 2967/76 laying down common standards for the water content of frozen and deep-frozen chickens, hens and cocks.

R/1979/78 (COM(78)303 FINAL)
Proposal for a council regulation amending regulation (EEC) 1544/69 on the tariff treatment applicable to goods contained in travellers' personal luggage.

R/1985/78 (COM(78)335 FINAL)
Proposal for a council regulation amending for the second time regulation (EEC) 1930/76 on the distillation of the by-products of wine-making.

S/1308/78 (COM(78)360 FINAL)
Proposal for a council regulation prolonging regulation (EEC) 2862/77 on levies applicable to imports of certain adult bovine animals and beef from Yugoslavia.

Consultative documents

R/1910/78 (COM(78)329 FINAL)
Proposal for the transfer of appropriations from one chapter to another.

R/1793/78 (COM(78)294 FINAL)
Report to council and Parliament under article 2 of council decision 72/446/EEC of 28 December 1972 adopting a common research programme in the field of classical and African swine fever.

R/1509/78 (COM(78)242 FINAL)
Commission report to the council on the utilisation of sums available for granting building loans to officials of the European Communities over the period 1 January 1977 to 31 December 1977.

R/1515/78 (COM(78)241 FINAL)
Educational activities with a European content: the study of the European community in schools.

R/1683/78 (COM(78)222 FINAL)
The teaching of languages in the community.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and directives which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Animal feedingstuffs. Directive 78/613/EEC amending the annexes to council directive 70/524/EEC concerning the additives in feedingstuffs (*Official Journal* L198, 22 July 1978).

Seeds and plants. Decision 78/615/EEC amending decision 76/687/EEC authorising Germany to restrict the marketing of seed of certain varieties of agricultural plant species (*Official Journal* L198, 22 July 1978).

Decision 78/616/EEC extending decision 78/200/EEC authorising member states to permit temporarily the marketing of forestry reproductive material not complying with requirements of directive 66/404/EEC (*Official Journal* L198, 22 July 1978).

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 1729/78 laying down detailed rules of application in respect of the production refund for sugar used in the chemical industry (*Official Journal* L201, 25 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1745/78 fixing the guaranteed prices applicable for cane sugar originating in the overseas countries and territories (OCT) for 1978/79 (*Official Journal* L203, 27 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1746/78 on the conclusion of the agreements in the form of exchanges of letters, and the texts of the letters, between the European Economic Community and Barbados, the People's Republic of the Congo, Fiji, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, the Republic of Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, the Republic of Malawi, Mauritius, the Republic of Surinam, the Kingdom of Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, the Republic of Uganda, and also the Republic of India, on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar for 1978/79 (*Official Journal* L203, 27 July 1978).

Flax and hemp. Regulation (EEC) 1755/78 supplementing the annex to regulation (EEC) 771/74 laying down detailed rules for granting aid for flax and hemp (*Official Journal* L203, 27 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1757/78 amending regulations (EEC) 1523/71 and (EEC) 771/74 regarding flax and hemp (*Official Journal* L203, 27 July 1978).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1730/78 amending for the fourth time regulation (EEC) 1608/76 laying down detailed rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape musts (*Official Journal* L201, 25 July 1978).

Pigs and pigmeat. Regulation (EEC) 1731/78 fixing the weighting co-efficients to be used in calculating the community market price for pig carcases (*Official Journal* L201, 25 July 1978).

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 1740/78 amending article 1 of regulation (EEC) 1579/74 on the procedure for calculating the import levy on products processed from cereals and from rice and for the advance fixing of this levy for these products and for compound feedingstuffs manufactured from cereals (*Official Journal* L202, 26 July 1978).

Regulation (EEC) 1741/78 amending article 4 of regulation (EEC) 1387/78 laying down the method for determining the minimum bread-making quality of common wheat (*Official Journal* L202, 26 July 1978).

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal* L202, 26 July 1978 contains the text of Decision 78/626/EEC authorising Ireland to apply protective measures to trade within the Community in twine, cordage ropes and cables, whether or not plaited, falling within heading no. 59.04 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal and in free circulation in the other member states.

STRATEGY NEWS

Trade and Industry monthly guide to developments in the Industrial Strategy

No 2 August 1978

Industry's biggest challenge

Microelectronics is now being heralded as the greatest revolution since the wheel. It presents a fundamental challenge to industry and the country as a whole. Against this background, Secretary of State for Industry Eric Varley, announced a £70 million, five-year selective support programme for the UK microelectronics industry on 26 July. The object is to stimulate growth in a very competitive area of high technology and to encourage investment over and above projects already planned by the industry itself and by the National Enterprise Board. This issue of 'Strategy News' concentrates on the background to the programme, on developments in the electronic components sector (page 2), and looks at Warren Spring Laboratory's work on microprocessors (page 4).

Over the next 10-15 years, microelectronics technology will undoubtedly have radical effects on both manufacturing and service industries. These changes present the UK with a very considerable challenge to improve its competitiveness, to boost exports, and to promote import substitution. The impact on employment will be considerable.

Speaking on the need for concerted action by government and industry, the prime minister has indicated that the priorities are to increase manufacture of microelectronics circuits; to encourage the widespread use of microelectronics in British industry; and to examine the wider social and economic consequences.

On 4 July, the government announced a £15 million microprocessor application project (see *Trade and Industry*, 7 July, page 2).

Other initiatives include the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development's (Acard) working party on microprocessors, which is producing a wide-ranging study pointing to the need to spread the awareness in industry of future applications for microprocessors, the need for skilled engineers, training and retraining programmes, and calling for an examination of educational resources to be devoted to the area.

In addition, the Central Policy Review Staff (CPRS) will be carrying out further studies on the social and economic implications of this revolution in conjunction with Acard and the Department of Employment unit for manpower studies (see below).

Latest programme

Under the new (26 July) Department of Industry microelectronics industry support programme (Misp), financial assistance is offered to appropriate firms to enable them to establish a production capacity for mass-produced standard microelectronic circuits, or to expand design and manufacturing capacity for lower-volume specialised circuits (see box).

Funds are also available for the support of suppliers of equipment, materials and services to the microelectronics industry.

One significant feature of the programme will be to encourage undertakings with companies on their long-term market and development plans. Assistance will be concentrated on good projects in pursuit of planned strategies worked out with individual companies. The aim will be to provide continued availability of support for worthwhile developments which fit into an agreed strategic framework.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate that their projects would not be undertaken in the form or timescale proposed without government support.

New division

Stimulating awareness of the competitive advantages offered by microelectronic techniques – in particular microprocessors – and encouraging their adoption by companies in all sectors of British industry and commerce, where they can be of benefit, is the task of a new electronics applications division set up within the Department of Industry.

The new division will be responsible for implementation of the microprocessor application project, launched by the Secretary of State for Industry on 4 July (see above), and for developing further initiatives with the same objectives.

To complement the division's work, engineers will be appointed within the department's other sponsoring divisions with specific responsibility for promoting the application of microelectronics in their sectors of industry.

The new division will also be the sponsoring division for the instrument and automation industries; sponsorship of the microelectronics device industry will remain with that of the electronics and computer industries generally, under the department's computer systems and electronics division.

Manpower study group

To take charge of studies into the social effects of microelectronic technology, the Department of Employment has established a special group within its unit for manpower studies.

In its study of the social and economic implications of microelectronics, CPRS will be able to call upon the special study group to advise it on manpower aspects. The group will also provide a service to the relevant branches of the Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission, and will work closely with the DoI.

It will be concerned with all potential manpower effects of microelectronic technology over the next five to 10 years which can currently be foreseen.

Misp in brief

Terms of assistance

A total of £70 million over five years has been made available. Under the Science and Technology Act 1965:

☐ Cost-shared contracts normally of up to 50 per cent, for research projects.

☐ Grants of up to 25 per cent, or in certain circumstances cost-shared contracts of up to 50 per cent for development of products and processes.

Under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972:

☐ Grants of up to 25 per cent for investment in production plant, equipment and building.

Coverage

☐ All firms in the UK microelectronics sector and firms in the UK supplying equipment materials or services to the microelectronics industry.

Objectives

☐ To encourage established companies (mainly multinationals) to build up their standard production in the UK.

☐ To support companies (mainly UK-owned) to create the capability needed by user industries.

☐ To support companies supplying key equipment, materials and services to undertake developments which may be essential to the industry, or in which the UK may have a technological lead which could be exploited on the world market.

☐ To support certain microelectronic products, which are peripheral but important to the microelectronics industry.

Applications: R. G. Taylor, Department of Industry, Computer Systems and Electronics Division, Room 211, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6386/8966.

Plan for action

What is the Industrial Strategy? How can it help British industry? These questions are answered in a new booklet – 'Plan for action – published by the National Economic Development Office.

Copies of the booklet are available free from the National Economic Development Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX, tel 01-211 3000.

Sector in the spotlight

Electronic components

Britain's electronic components industry stands on the threshold of a rosy future – if it moves fast enough to take advantage of the opportunities. This article summarises the main findings of the electronic components sector working party in its 1978 progress report, and highlights its objectives and latest views on the development of microelectronics.

The electronic components industry has a rapidly growing world market and supplies a relatively buoyant home market. But, at the same time, the opportunities are mirrored by dangers. The very fact that demand is growing rapidly could damage the prospects of companies that do not assess and satisfy these markets in time, says the SWP progress report for 1978.

The reason for this is twofold: first, the technology in many types of components, particularly semi-conductors, is changing rapidly, and new markets will demand the most advanced components; secondly, the economies of scale in the production of many components are considerable. The report points out that companies capable of rapid expansion will become increasingly more competitive than those not so capable. A high calibre of management skills, backed by a greatly increased level of capital investment, will be needed to halt the recent rise in import penetration and to ensure that exports of UK components rise as fast as the increase in world trade.

Clear opportunities

The SWP has found certain clear opportunities for the electronic components industry during the next few years: in integrated communications and data transmission systems; in signal and data-processing systems; in automobile electronics; and in video and other entertainment electronics.

This is not an exhaustive list – but these are the sort of opportunities the industry must seize – not only to grow but also to survive. Adequate support by the government, together with an expanding research and development programme, will be necessary.

The SWP decided it was necessary to examine prospects at product group level because of the diversity of company structure and products within the industry. Any objective for the industry as a whole must be set against the prospects and potential of the major product groups. The SWP has been identifying the areas in which Britain can reasonably hope to compete and the actions that need to be taken to maximise the chances of success. It has reached the conclusion that microelectronics (mainly on silicon) must be one of the future priority component technologies.

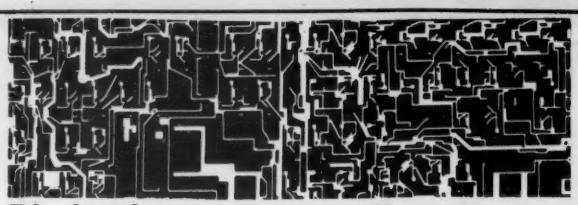
The sector has also developed interim objectives based on the assumption that exports maintain their share of world trade and that import penetration is held at its present level – ie that the UK maintains its share of both home and overseas markets. The table (below) gives a projection to 1980.

Case B shows what would happen if the UK industry fails to export enough and maintain its share of world trade. In case A, which represents the SWP's interim objectives, UK output would rise by nearly 16 per cent a year, and imports and exports would be almost in balance by 1980 (and afterwards in surplus).

Projection to 1980 for the electronic components industry

	1973-76	1976	1980, Case A		1980, Case B	
	growth rate % pa	£m	growth rate % pa	£m	growth rate % pa	£m
1 UK output (sales)	11	775		1 380		1 288
2 Imports (cif)	14	420	+10	615	+10	611
3 Exports (fob)	21	250	+25	611	+20	519
4 UK market (1+2−3)	10	945	+10	1 384	+10	1 384
5 Import penetration (2/4)		44.5%		44.5%		44.5%
6 Employment ('000s)		124.6				
Productivity growth	10% pa			152		141
Productivity growth	15% pa			127		118

Rounded to nearest per cent.



Big business on a small scale

Microelectronics is the generic name for electric components or circuits made to very small dimensions. Electronic circuits, formerly made by connecting together individual components, can now be manufactured as a unit known as a microcircuit on the surface of a 'chip' of silicon. Developments in this technology have been rapid over the past 15 years.

The number of components which can be placed on a 'chip' less than a quarter-of-an-inch square has increased from 10 to 100 000 and is still increasing, while the cost per component has fallen from about £5 to less than 0.1p.

One form of microcircuit 'chip' can contain all the logic circuits of a small computer which only a few years ago would have cost thousands of pounds. This is the microprocessor.

Applications

Microelectronic technology is currently being used in pocket calculators, digital watches and video-tape recorders. Applications will shortly extend to washing machines, cookers and other domestic appliances.

Other possible applications include car ignition systems and telecommunications. The technology also has an important role in the manufacturing process itself – in the design of assembly-line equipment and the control of process plant.

This may not appear sufficiently ambitious, but the SWP believes it is realistic.

Export opportunities

Export opportunities for the UK electronic components industry are considerable. There is a number of fast-growing markets, not only in developing, Commonwealth and Opec countries, but also in Europe.

Looking further ahead, both the electronic equipment and the electronic component manufacturers must identify the products that will be in demand in future home and overseas markets and then apply sufficient resources in these fields. A very high priority must be given to microelectronics.

Microelectronics report

In its report on microelectronics, the electronic components SWP has identified three interdependent objectives:

1 supporting the UK user industries
2 improving the competitive performance of the microelectronics industry itself
3 protecting national security

The SWP believes that the successful fulfilment of the first two objectives will ensure the fulfilment of the third. The report points out that the microelectronics industry is the key to all other industries requiring high-technology electronics. At present, the balance of trade deficit in integrated circuits (ICs) is growing rapidly. There is need for an effective strategy for a British microelectronics industry.

Support for user industries

The user industries will continue to need specialised integrated circuits, the report says. The UK microelectronics industry is already well-established in this area but, the SWP believes, it will need to expand and strengthen its technological base to continue providing a total capability to meet the special needs of user industries.

The SWP also believes that volume production of selected multi-application circuits should be expanded in the UK. The technology and experience of volume production of selected circuits will be increasingly needed to help develop the technology required for many of the custom circuits of the future. Access to both is vital to the user industries. In the future, equipment engineers must be encouraged to design their systems around multi-application devices wherever possible, for reasons of cost and export-market acceptability.

This expansion in the volume production of multi-application circuits, however, can only be achieved if Britain succeeds in winning a larger share of the rapidly growing world market. A careful strategy to develop the necessary strength in management, marketing and manufacturing technology is therefore required. The development of UK

microelectronics needs to be considered in the context of EEC policy for the industry.

While it is also essential for Britain to continue producing certain customer-specific and industry-specific circuits, if the equipment industry is to prosper, the SWP says it is equally important to build on the contribution made by the multinationals in the volume production of multi-application circuits.

The SWP also believes that some UK-owned volume production of these multi-application devices is desirable where it is commercially sensible. The recent NEB initiative, to set up Inmos should be judged in this context.

The success of this strategy will depend on the recruitment and training of large numbers of technically qualified personnel.

Exploitation of IC technology
Exploitation of integrated circuit technology by the user industries is already widely recognised as being one of the most important aspects of the new technology.

The equipment industry must, the SWP believes, concentrate on selling products and 'systems' using microelectronics to the rest of the world. This is where the financial returns and the future jobs will be. It is therefore important that a total design capability should be developed that would enable products and systems to be built from the most appropriate subsystems, and enable the equipment industries to make the right choice between microprocessors, other multi-application devices, and devices designed more specially for their needs.

Where government has helped

Launched in January 1977 as a selective financial assistance scheme under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972, the government's electronic components industry scheme has to date committed nearly three-quarters of its £20 million funds. Total investment in projects associated with the government contribution (£13.4 million) is in excess of £52 million. Here we examine three typical projects, all of which have been set up by Plessey Optoelectronics and Microwave Ltd (POML) at Towcester. We also look at the effect of DoI support on the manufacturing strategy of BOC Magnets.

Developing new ranges

Development work associated with Plessey's solid state microwave devices programme has led to several new ranges of devices for both commerical and military uses.

In the high-volume area, Gunn diode microwave oscillators have been developed for use in burglar alarms, automatic door openers, process-control equipment, speed meters and many other applications. Approximately half the items are exported.

In the very high-technology area of low-noise gallium arsenide field effect transistors, POML is one of the world's leading companies. These devices have been exploited to produce a range of amplifiers for use in radar and telecommunications where they replace more traditional parametric and tunnel diode amplifiers with the advantages of lower cost and smaller size. A prime example is their use in Plessey's highly successful AR3D radar.

Development work is proceeding in a number of other areas such as power amplifiers, high-frequency oscillators and microwave subsystems.

LED displays
Support of the light-emitting diode (LED) displays programme has made possible the effort being made by POML in the use of LED displays in applications where the twin benefits of high brightness and reliability are a necessity. A major result of the investment is that POML displays have been selected already for use in Nimrod, and the Sea King helicopter. Favourable reactions from Boeing, McDonnell Douglas and other companies in the aircraft industry both at home and abroad show the extent of the market in the immediate future.

Growth of demand for this type of display has not been confined to aircraft. Custom-designed displays are currently undergoing trials in motor cars, heavy vehicles and process-control instrumentation.

LTT detectors
POML has developed multi-element lead tin telluride (LTT) infra-red detector arrays for military and civil thermal imaging applications. Thermal imaging is a form of display that uses heat radiators emitted by the target to produce a picture, instead of light as in a conventional tv camera.

DoI funding started in January 1978 and has been used to develop the bonding system which connects the individual array elements, each of which is 0.05 mm × 0.05 mm, to the wire lead-outs to the amplifiers. The connection has to be made very precisely and must not inflict damage on the tiny array elements. This has required the development of very sophisticated remote bonding techniques. First delivery of such an array is scheduled for September.

POML also manufactures a single element detector for use as the receive element in a laser rangefinder and support is being given to the development of a 10 MHz bandwidth pre-amplifier.

Where the money's gone

A breakdown of the support already approved under the electronic components industry scheme.

	%
Passive components (resistors, capacitors)	18.8
Active components (discretes)	17.4
Active components (silicon integrated circuits)	27.3
Active components (microwave)	16.4
Active components (bubble memories, surface acoustic wave filters)	13.4
Solid state displays	6.7
	100

Investing to boost exports

BOC Magnets, an independent profit centre within the engineering division of BOC Ltd, is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of small sintered permanent magnets. For many years, the company has specialised in the production of the Alnico range of sintered permanent magnets. The powder metallurgy techniques lend themselves to the high-volume production of small, and sometimes complex, components used principally by the electronic, telecommunications, electrical and automobile industries.

BOC Magnets employs 150 people to produce and market some 30 million magnets per year, ranging upwards in size from a 2 mm cube, weighing only a fraction of a gram, to perhaps 20 or 30 g. Applications vary from the unusual use in optical surgery to link the good with the artificial eye, to the routine, but major, consumption in telephones in many countries.

Historically, the company has enjoyed a very dominant share of the UK market. Space and capacity constraints have, however, restricted its opportunities to expand business overseas, and, particularly, to penetrate the growing domestic markets of other European suppliers operating with similar technology. Exports have never greatly exceeded 20 per cent of manufacturing output. A reappraisal of these missed opportunities has led BOC Ltd to support BOC Magnets' determination to regard Europe as its home market and to develop an appropriate manufacturing strategy.

As part of a major investment programme, a new 3500 m² custom-built factory in Rainham, Essex, aims to create a working environment that will encourage the recruitment and retention of a high-calibre workforce in this specialist field.

The new factory layout has been designed to develop a flow-line approach to manufacture in what is, essentially, a jobbing business. In a critical appraisal of methods and equipment, manufacturing stages are being linked together, where possible, to simplify or eliminate interstage processes.

Coupled with investment in the most productive equipment available, and the development of special purpose machinery, some spectacular improvements in productivity are already being generated. A cost-effective and adequate-capacity base has already been developed and exports are now touching 35 per cent of manufacture.

Diary of events

Ministers are making a determined effort to meet many successful British companies to discuss the Industrial Strategy and details of some visits arranged for coming weeks, are given below. More information about future ministerial visits as well as Industrial Strategy events planned by the TUC, CBI and sector working parties will be published in future issues.

Date	Event
31 Aug	Prime Minister: visit to Triplex Ltd
6 Sept	Bob Cryer: carpet fair, Harrogate
	Peter Archer: visit to Dartmouth Auto Castings Ltd
15	Leslie Huckfield: Industrial Strategy seminar for the Welsh TUC
16	Eric Varley: Aveling Marshall, Gainsborough
18	Bob Cryer: international clothing exhibition
19	Peter Archer: visit to Danks of Netherton Ltd, Oldbury, and BSR, Cradley Heath
21	Bob Cryer: Industrial Strategy conference, Team Valley trading estate
27	Eric Varley: opening new factory for Petbow Ltd, Engineers, Sandwich
27	Leslie Huckfield: Wedgwood Ltd, Stoke on Trent

WSL and the microprocessor revolution

Government research establishments are playing a key role in improving the competitiveness of UK manufacturing industry. In this first article in our 'Strategy News' series on the REs, we look at the Warren Spring Laboratory and, in particular, its work on the application of microprocessors to the control of industrial processes.

Effective control of industrial processing operations is vital to the efficiency, productivity and competitiveness of a wide range of industries, and the advent of cheap and versatile microprocessor chips is beginning to have spectacular effects on the design and application of industrial control systems. It enables production processes to use the minimum of raw materials and energy and to make the most efficient use of capital plant and process operators. This can produce impressive pay-offs in quite a short time.

The control engineering and materials handling division of Warren Spring Laboratory (WSL) in Stevenage is concentrating on the implications for industry of setting up a modern control system.

It usually, but not always, involves at least some change in the materials handling arrangements to ensure smooth, controllable and uninterrupted flow, in particular of powders, granular materials, pastes and slurries. Material uniformity must be ensured by adequate mixing. Adequate measurement of process parameters is another requirement and is essential for process control, product quality control and cost information for management accounting. This may be done on-line (within the process stream), off-line, or by a combination of the two.

Modern microprocessor systems are well-suited to link with instruments and provide on-line calibration, checking and fault-finding facilities. The instrument readings can be further processed and stored or combined with other instrument signals to inform operators or management of the state of the process, material flows and balances or cost data.

Microprocessors can also be used to steer the process in an optimal fashion. This can be completely automatic, but often involves some input from the process operators.

An increasing range of microprocessor controllers is now coming onto the market. These include simple and cheap systems, pre-programmed to a specific task, but where parameters, set points and timing can still be adjusted; and more sophisticated controllers, which can be programmed by the user to take care of changing conditions and requirements. For both kinds, skilled programming assistance is available where required, from suppliers, consultants and software houses. Similarly, fault-finding is not difficult and maintenance is normally a question of replacing a part and sending the faulty one back to the supplier.

The final step in the process-control function is actually translating the signals received from the control system into action, that is the physical control or process inputs or outputs such as heat and materials. This can be done automatically or by an operator, depending on circumstances.

In some cases, – for example, where a particular valve needs only to be opened and closed infrequently, or when small amounts of special ingredients have to be added to a batch – it may be cheaper to involve the operator rather than invest in expensive capital equipment which will not be used much. WSL has made a special study of the operator as part of a control system and has staff skilled in this area. If they are to be successful, changes in the processing and handling system must win the commitment of operators. For that reason alone, it may be preferable to stop short of complete automation and leave a worthwhile job for some operators, which can be readily achieved with modern microprocessor-based interface equipment.

Help from WSL

During the last few years, some 600 companies have taken part in WSL courses, seminars and workshops. They include such well-known and diverse names as ICI, Cadbury, Rugby Portland Cement, Nairn Floors, Gestetner, Standard Railway Wagon Co, Ferranti, Kodak and the Mersey Docks and Harbour Co.

Senior WSL staff also spend a considerable portion of their time talking to visitors and visiting factories and offices to explain the new technologies and their possible applications in practice to individuals and groups. With their wealth of experience in a wide variety of industries, they can usually illustrate technological possibilities by giving examples in the same or related industry.

As a result of many of these visits, companies have sent staff to WSL courses or seminars, or have commissioned studies to examine the potential of new process-control methods. Preliminary feasibility studies may then lead to more thorough systems studies involving plant, materials, costs and people. Carried out in close collaboration with factory staff and confidential if required, they lead to recommendations for new or modified and modernised handling and control systems.

Costs

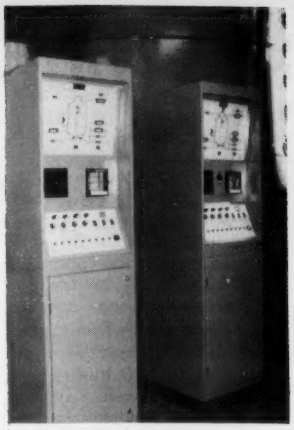
A versatile microprocessor controller/sequencer can now be bought complete for something like £7,000. There is also the cost of purchase and installation of instruments and controls and perhaps of consulting assistance. However, it has been the experience of many of WSL's customers that projects of this kind can have a pay-back period of three years or less, through higher yields, lower losses and wastage, higher productivity of men and machinery, and energy and capital savings.

Under certain circumstances, assistance is now available towards the costs of initial consultancy as well as those of introducing a new production-control scheme under the terms of the microprocessor applications scheme and the product and process development scheme. More information about the schemes is available from the Department of Industry, Computer Systems and Electronics Division, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG.

WSL in action

WSL has served as a contractor for various industrial customers who wanted to introduce modern control systems into their operation.

A sugar refinery wanted to replace a central computer on its crystalliser pan floor by distributed (individual) controls to reduce total system vulnerability to faults, and thus down-time. The company also wanted the system to be simple so that normal factory staff rather than a special team could operate it. An instrument manufacturer was brought in and, assisted by a government loan, produced a WSL-developed microprocessor using a WSL-developed program package. The system is now in successful operation and is being extended by linking a number of microprocessors to a master system for back-up, optimisation and management information and control.



Microprocessor control of crystallising pans in a sugar factory.

Another satisfied customer was a canning factory, which wished to record and control the time-temperature of heat exposure of its cans in a hydrostatic sterilisation unit, because up-stream hold-ups could cause variation and possible spoilage of the product. A microprocessor unit was prepared, installed and programmed with the help of WSL to give the process engineers a complete record of delays and temperature alarms. The system also indicated to the process operators any oversterilisation of the product.

Crucial to efficiency

Sector working parties have concluded that the introduction of modern production control systems is crucial to improving the efficiency and competitiveness of UK industry. This involves examining technical, commercial, economic and human considerations and their complex interactions. While WSL staff do not claim to have all the answers, they have acquired great experience, which they can bring to control engineering, microprocessor applications, measurement and sampling techniques, materials handling and process engineering, as well as the relevant human factors.

They have extensive contacts and a long tradition of close co-operation with research associations, consultants, software houses, universities and instrument and control manufacturers. In line with the government's commitment to making more resources available to manufacturing industry, WSL's expertise is at the disposal of industry.

More about WSL

If you wish to know more about WSL, contact Mr P. H. Hammond, Warren Spring Laboratory, PO Box 20, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage SG1 2BX, tel. 0438 3388, for a discussion, at Stevenage or at your factory or office

New publications

How to argue at industrial tribunals

Facing industrial tribunals with confidence necessitates extensive research and knowledge of the permutations and sophistication of tribunal powers. In this second edition of 'The industrial tribunals handbook', author Bowes Egan has adopted the same objective he quoted in the preface to the first edition: 'to provide a clear and lucid guide on how to present an argument at an industrial tribunal'.

This aim is amply fulfilled. His extremely useful clarification of rules and the rights of the parties helps to put an end to confusion. Margin indicators point to changes of subject and the inclusion of samples of relevant forms is very helpful.

A collection of appendices lists relevant laws, regulations and codes, a table of cited cases, information on tribunal structures in Scotland and Northern Ireland, and addresses of official bodies and other relevant organisations.

The industrial tribunals handbook, by Bowes Egan. The New Commercial Publishing Co Ltd, 4 St John's Terrace, London W10. 1978. 368 pages; paperback, £9.50 (ISBN 0 90617402 3).

Growth rim of Asia

Concentrating principally on the eight countries that make up what has become known as the 'growth rim of Asia' – Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand – the compilers of a new reference book provide a useful financial background on the region.

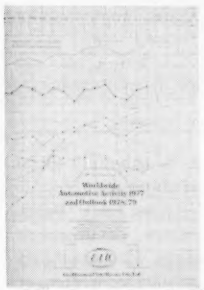
Local experts have provided introductory articles outlining the healthy economic growth rates in their respective countries. Financial perspectives and national budgets are provided for the eight countries studied and they are backed up by a selection of statistics, taken mainly from national sources. These provide useful comparisons but only include those available at the publication's mid-1977 cut-off date – the latest cover 1976.

Over 400 leading companies in the region have been included in the study. Details of their head office address, telephone and telex numbers are given, together with financial performance profiles, names of key officers, number of shareholders and employees. The back of the book contains a supplement on the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, reviewing the state of both economies.

Any investor, banker or exporter interested in these countries should find this publication a good introduction to the business environment and those already involved now have a convenient basic guide.

Asia corporate profile and national finance 1977. Asian Finance Publications Ltd. Available from Kogan Page, 1978. 352 pages; £15.00. (ISBN 0 85038123 1).

Bright prospects for motor industry?



In an optimistic conclusion, the *Economist* intelligence unit's latest special report claims that the future of the automotive industry is bright. It says that for those companies with the necessary imagination and talent 'there are exciting and worthwhile times ahead'. This detailed analysis of the world's vehicle manufacturing sector, in familiar EIU format, investigates the background to the vehicle manufacturing industry, not only in the west where it has been long-established, but also in the eastern bloc and in the developing world, where there are many new problems as well as challenges ahead.

The report is divided into three main sections. The scene-setting introduction sketches developments from the beginning of 1977 until April this year. The second section, supported by statistical evidence, of vehicle production, registration, imports and exports, explores the period in more detail. Prospects for the industry for the rest of 1978 and 1979 are reviewed in the final chapter.

Organised on a regional basis, the study offers little guidance for reference purposes. As with other EIU reports in the series, an index would add considerably to its usefulness.

An authoritative report based on up-to-date research, this is essentially a short-term study, which should be of immediate interest to all associated with the industry.

Worldwide automotive activity 1977 and outlook 1978-79, by Arthur Way and Richard Phillips. EIU Special Report no. 51. Economist Intelligence Unit, Spencer House, 27 St James's Place, London SW1A 1NT. 1978. 165 pages; paperback, £50.00.

Information at a price

Public libraries and their free services are so much a fundamental part of the British way of life that it often comes as a shock to recognise that information services are a valuable and expensive facility that have a market price. Particularly in the world of business information, commercial services and consultancies have developed over the last few years, bringing to the UK bibliographical scene a transatlantic, entrepreneurial flavour. It has been argued that information for business has a market price, though what should be free and what not has yet to be established by the forces of the market place.

The latest contribution to a subject that will be of importance to many responsible for providing information in the business world, takes the form of a British Library 'R&D report'. It describes the results of a survey of 40 on-demand information and associated services available at a fee, and was carried out by personal interviews during 1977.

In undertaking this survey, Miss Birks is presumably developing the interest generated in her (unpublished) City University 1976 master's degree on the state of London's library services to business and commerce. A report dealing with so comparatively new a field as this may have been expected to show a variety of approaches and be somewhat inconclusive as a result, and indeed it is: a number of trends are highlighted. Yet it was a worthwhile project, valuable in demonstrating a new philsophy and in associating the British Library with a field as important as information sources for business and commerce.

Information services in the market place, by C. I. Birks. British Library Research and Development Reports. British Library Research and Development Department, Sheraton House, Great Chapel Street, London W1V 4BH. 1978. iv, 70 pages; ringbound £3.00. (ISBN 0 90598416 1).

Business in the Channel Isles

There are many attractions for the prospective businessman in the Channel Isles. Fiscal conditions combine with an attractive environment to ensure a steady influx of personal and corporate finance. Despite the attractions, there has been a surprising dearth of published material to provide background for those with a business interest there.

In a new booklet by Deloitte Haskins and Sells, this gap has been partially bridged by a brief outline of the commerical laws and regulations on each of the islands. It includes chapters on setting up home and business and the commercial facilities available.

A minor omission from an otherwise useful study is the absence of contacts for further information.

The Channel Islands: basic business information, by Deloitte Haskins and Sells. Oyez Publishing Ltd. 1978. 42 pages; paperback, £2.95 (ISBN 0 85120374 4).

Overseas trade news

Dell leads mission to China and Hong Kong

Britain wants to expand trade with China into other industrial sectors apart from mining machinery and aerospace expertise. This is the aim of the current 12-day visit of British businessmen to China and Hong Kong, led by trade secretary Edmund Dell.

Business with the Chinese in mining machinery and aerospace expertise is already good. The Chinese are at present though looking for possible foreign suppliers to help with their ambitious development plans and, before he left, Mr Dell said the mission was an important one at the right time.

Businessmen taking part in the delegation represent a broad cross-section of British industrial skill and know-how. Those with special financial and consultancy skills could help the Chinese make the most of their resources and achieve their aim of comprehensive modernisation by the year 2000.

'To work properly, trade must be a two-way operation. So as well as exploring China's development plans, we also want to find out what more we can buy from China consistent with our own requirements,' Mr Dell said. The mission was intended to lay the foundations for a significant increase in two-way trade in the next two decades, he concluded. (*Trade and Industry*, 4 August, page 239, listed members of the British teams.)

Talks continue on UK–Venezuelan co-operation

Talks on the progress made under the Anglo-Venezuelan economic and industrial co-operation agreement took place in London on 27 July between Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, and Venezuela's development minister, Dr Luis Alvarez Dominguez.

The two ministers discussed in some detail the sectors where the UK and Venezuela can continue to co-operate. These included energy, transport, iron and steel-making, agriculture and fisheries, health and social services, environment and shipbuilding.

Dr Alvarez also called on Tony Benn, energy secretary, Peter Shore, environment secretary, and Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security.

The Anglo-Venezuelan agreement was initialled during the visit of President Perez to London in November 1976 and was signed by Mr Dell in Caracas in August 1977.

The Venezuelan party later attended a working lunch hosted by Ken Wetherell, chairman of the Latin American trade advisory group of the British Overseas Trade Board, for informal discussions with British industrialists and finance experts.

BOTB produces new audio-visual

A new 15 minute audio-visual presentation of the BOTB services for exporters has been produced. The presentation, in cartoon style, covers the range of BOTB services which can be of help to new and established exporters. It looks at the services available in the order in which an exporter is most likely to require them. Companies interested in seeing the presentation should contact their nearest BOTB regional office, or BOTB Publicity Unit.

US takes first look at UK hardwares

American home-lovers will be getting a first look at British do-it-yourself and gardening products new to the US market.

Two joint ventures at next week's Chicago national hardware show are being sponsored by the Hardware Manufacturers' Association, Gardenex and the British Overseas Trade Board.

In the hardware section, new hand-tools shown include a hacksaw file rapidly cutting a wide range of materials, a pad saw, do-it-yourself paint brushes and rollers, transfers for brightening plain wall tiles and an aid that allows painting and cleaning in high and awkward places without the use of a ladder. Of special interest will be high-quality tool boxes in mahogany. The collector of handmade craftsman's tools will find items of interest, such as reproduction screwdrivers, including one contained in many car tool kits of the 1930s.

Among the new gardening products will be a propagator that combines both heating and self-watering features, a low-cost aluminium garden frame, aluminium greenhouses and a tyre for agricultural and industrial use claimed to be 30 per cent lighter than ordinary tyres and with greater capacity to absorb shocks.

UK dominates ME building fairs

Britain will provide the largest national group at two major construction fairs in the Middle East later this year. A total of 170 firms, supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, will be exhibiting at both events.

At the Middle East construction exhibition in Dubai, from 29 October to 4 November, 92 British companies will be supported by the board in conjunction with the Building Materials Export Group and the Federation of Manufacturers of Construction Equipment and Cranes. The firms taking part will cover virtually all aspects of building and construction. British equipment on show will include pneumatic tools, portable buildings, stained glass, electronic cable tv distribution equipment, scaffolding and generating equipment.

In Bahrain, at Arab Build from 26 to 30 November, BOTB and the Building Materials Export Group will support a joint venture of 86 British companies – which will be twice as big as the next largest national group, from West Germany. This first-time exhibition is claimed to be the largest specialised construction show ever held in the Arab world. The British display will show a wide selection of industrial and domestic building materials and fittings together with construction equipment.

CPRS on overseas representation: the government replies

Interchange of personnel between the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and 17 other government departments is one of the proposals in a white paper on the UK's overseas representation (Cmnd. 7308, HMSO £1.35) published on 2 August. The following is a summary of the white paper which follows the central policy review staff's 1977 report.

A programme of personnel interchange would provide for 100 additional secondments in each direction over the next four to five years and would be supervised by ministers. There would also be short-term attachments, with the home civil service and the diplomatic service receiving joint training. The government would also consider the feasibility of extending interchange to industry, commerce, banking and the trades unions.

Reply to 1977 report

The white paper follows on the 1977 report (see *Trade and Industry*, 5 August 1977) carried out by central policy review staff (CPRS) . In its conclusions, the white paper says that now the initial five-year period of UK membership of the European community has been completed, there is a need to reappraise the UK's overseas representation.

The white paper says that a system of wide but cost-effective representation overseas should be established with mini-missions in countries where British interests are limited. The government intends to take steps to ensure this does not lead to an increase in the number of higher-grade posts. Mini-missions apart, the white paper says there is a clear need for further reductions in the size of posts and that there will be a critical examination of the size and grading of missions. Six subordinate posts should be closed and the closure of five more should be considered. The research department in the FCO should be cut by 17 per cent from 110 to 91, says the white paper.

Other measures put forward include a cut in information staff overseas with 16.5 per cent coming from the diplomatic service and 10.5 per cent from locally engaged staff; a government aim of a 25 per cent cut in defence staff abroad; a detailed review of the long-term manpower needs of the diplomatic service which has been set in hand, and an intensive review of training for diplomatic service commercial officers which is nearing completion.

New series of papers

The white paper says there should be joint consultation and agreement between the FCO and the relevant home departments on the priorities, policies and resources to be deployed in any given country, by means of country assessment papers. The government would publish two new series of papers: foreign policy documents and background briefs, designed to increase the flow of available public information about foreign policy.

A review is currently taking place to see how far British Council offices abroad can be merged with missions. In addition, the British Council's role, structure and administration should be reviewed and the government is considering possible ways of rationalising education aid activities of the British Council, the Technical Education and Training Organisation for Overseas Countries and the Inter-University Council, and their relationship to the education departments and the Ministry of Overseas Development.

The white paper says the BBC's worldwide service should be maintained on a 24-hour basis and that all vernacular services should be reviewed. The government has authorised a go-ahead to maintain audibility within the BBC's estimate of what it technically considers essential. The necessary capital investment programme is expected to cost £20 million over the next five years.

Smaller aid programmes should be critically examined, and there should be a management review of the Ministry of Overseas Development.

The white paper states that, against the background of these changes, some of the main features of the present system of overseas representation will be preserved in their essentials. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs should remain the single cabinet minister responsible for the overall conduct of overseas relations in the broadest sense.

Integrated staffing in posts abroad under the control of the head of mission should continue to reflect the authority exercised by the secretary of state in the conduct of Britain's external relations. A separate diplomatic service should be maintained because of its advantages as a small, flexible and professional service. The government should continue to provide export and consular protection services and the British Council should continue to be one of the instruments through which the UK's longer-term interests are promoted.

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Use ATA carnets for Spain, embassy asks

ATA carnets have a lot to offer travelling businessmen, especially those who travel to Spain.

So says the British embassy in Madrid. The embassy points out that the carnets allow the temporary importing into foreign countries of goods, accompanied or otherwise, free of customs duties and taxes. A carnet also makes the raising of bonds, depositing of amounts for duty and the completion of customs documentation in foreign countries, unnecessary.

ATA carnets, the embassy explains, are usually used for samples and goods for overseas fairs and exhibitions.

Further information and carnets are available from the Export Service Department, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444.

London chamber to hold diplomatic reception

A reception for commercial section heads of British embassies in western Europe is being given by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 20 September at 17.30 hours at the London chamber.

This is an annual event which coincides with the commercial diplomats' annual conference.

Further information: Anita Russell, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444 ext. 124.

Hints to business men booklets

A revised edition of the booklet on Peru has been published.

British exporters can order this booklet by post, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, from the Department of Trade, Publications Sales Unit, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, at £1 per copy, plus postage and packing for one copy 20p, two to four copies 30p, five to seven copies 40p, more than seven post free.

Copies may also be purchased by personal callers at Export House and at the offices of the Department of Industry at Newcastle upon Tyne, Cockermouth, Manchester, Leeds, Nottingham, Birmingham, Bristol; from the Scottish and Welsh Offices and from the Department of Commerce, Belfast.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series, which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

ECGD backs eighth Yugoslavian loan

Repayment and funding of a $23.7 million loan, forming part of a $41 million package made available to Naftegas Rafinerija Nafte of Yugoslavia by Barclays Bank International, acting on its own behalf and on behalf of a syndicate of banks, is being guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

This is the eighth ECGD-guaranteed loan to Yugoslavia to be concluded since the beginning of the year, bringing the total value of such loans to $180 million.

Now 60 cases

The total value of foreign currency loans backed by ECGD now exceeds $2,000 million: over 60 cases have been signed since the scheme was announced in early 1977.

This latest loan will finance a contract awarded by Invest-Import, Yugoslavia, to Foster Wheeler Ltd of Reading for engineering design, project management, procurement of equipment, construction and supervisory and commissioning services for a fluid catalytic cracking complex at Pancevo. The unit, which is designed to raise yields of light petroleum products, is due to be commissioned in spring 1981.

East African Community: claims to be in by end September

Claims against the East African Community corporations and general fund services must be lodged with the appointed mediator by 30 September.

The mediator, Dr V. Umbricht of Switzerland, was appointed in March by the governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda to recommend proposals for the permanent and equitable division of the assets and liabilities of the corporations and general fund services.

To help both the mediator and the governments involved, state organisations, business firms and others with claims outstanding against the East African Community corporations and general fund services are invited to send full details of their claims to: Office of the Mediator, East African Community, 15 rue de Varembe, Case postale 24, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

Details should include: name and address of claimant; name and address of debtor; goods or nature of service; date of contract; original contract value with amounts of payments and due dates according to contract (indicating whether any payments have been made); the rate of contractual interest, as well as the actual amount, and the rate of past maturity interest, if specified in contract (please distinguish between principal and interest); and value of goods not yet shipped (if any).

The mediator says that the transmission of information on claims does not prevent the pursuit of action to recover money owed, nor should it be taken as a recognition of the claims or as any guarantee that the claims will be met either in full or in part. It will, however, assist the mediator in his efforts to identify and assign assets and liabilities among the partner states.

Campaign to improve British understanding of third world

A campaign to improve British understanding of third world issues will be launched next April by the Ministry of Overseas Development.

The campaign will cost £700,000 rising to £2.1 million by 1982, all of which will be found

Egg packers for Malawi

A Ben Nevis Packaging high-speed egg grading and packaging machine at the company's factory before being shipped to Malawi. The machine, being supplied to the Malawi Ministry of Natural Resources under a contract worth £56,000, handles 20 000 eggs an hour.

Queen's awards applications invited

Applications are invited from companies which would like to be considered for the Queen's award for export achievement for 1979.

The main qualificiations are that companies should be UK-based and have made outstanding achievements in exports. The closing date for return of applications is 31 October 1978.

Application forms are available from the Secretary, Queen's Awards Office, Williams National House, 11/13 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 1EL, tel. 01-222 2277.

from within the existing British overseas aid programme.

The need for such a campaign was one of the recommendations in a report, accepted by Judith Hart, overseas development minister, by the advisory committee on development education.

The report had found that two-thirds of the population were parochial, held introverted views and were confused by stereotypes and prejudices. The campaign was needed, the report argued, to show the British that they lived in an interdependent world.

The committee put forward a five-year programme which would make increased financial help and resources available to schools, higher education, trades unions, development groups, business and commerce, religious organisations and press and broadcasting.

Seminars on export opportunities in US southern states

Export opportunities for UK firms in the south-eastern United States will be highlighted at a series of three seminars sponsored by the north American advisory group of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Speakers at these seminars will include the consul (commercial) in Atlanta, the vice-president of a United States bank with its headquarters in the south-east, and representatives from UK companies which have set up a business there.

This region, made up of Virginia, north and south Carolina, Georgia and Florida, is enjoying rapid expansion over a wide spectrum of commercial and manufacturing activity. Aggressive and successful at attracting business investment from both domestic and overseas sources, this region has established more than 500 new facilities by international companies in recent years.

Dates and venues for the seminars are London 26 September; Manchester 27 September; Belfast 28 September.

Companies interested in attending any of these seminars (all of which are free of charge) should contact Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade, Room 429, 1 Victoria Steet, London SW1, tel. 01-215 3364/5328.

IMF meeting books up Washington DC hotels

Pressure is being placed on Washington DC hotel rooms at the end of September because of the annual conference of the International Monetary Fund.

Unless visitors have confirmed bookings for 20 September to 1 October, the British embassy advises that they should avoid the area.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1696: import surveillance of certain iron and steel products

Notices to importers 1650 and 1652 set out the arrangements, resulting from decisions taken at an EEC council of ministers meeting on 19 and 20 December 1977, for the surveillance licensing of imports into the UK of certain iron and steel products.

Recent measures taken by the EEC commission have extended the range of iron and steel products subject to surveillance licensing; amended the information required from traders submitting applications for products from third-country steel suppliers with whom the commission has concluded agreements on the volume and price of their exports to the community in 1978; and amended or introduced basic prices which are applicable to products covered by the surveillance arrangements for protection against dumping or the granting of subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Coal and Steel Community.

This notice sets out the surveillance licensing arrangments which will now be applicable to iron and steel products covered by the anti-crisis plan for the European community's iron and steel industry. These arrangements are effective from 4 August 1978.

Products affected by the arrangements

With the exception of 'ex. 73.15, blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars, of alloy steel, other than forged' (which products are now covered by the community's arrangements), they do not affect the licensing arrangements for the products listed in notice to importers 1630 (products subject to UK national surveillance licensing arrangements).

Products subject to EEC surveillance import licensing

The iron and steel products subject to surveillance import licensing under the anti-crisis plan are as follows:

Tariff heading/Description of goods
ex 73.01 Pig iron and cast iron *other than spiegeleisen.*
ex 73.02 Ferro-manganese containing more than 2% by weight of carbon (high carbon ferro-manganese).
ex 73.07 Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars (including tinplate bars), of iron or steel, *other than forged.*
73.08 Iron or steel coils for re-rolling.
ex 73.10 Wire rod, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.
ex 73.10 Reinforcing bars, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.
ex 73.10 Bars *other than reinforcing bars and hollow mining drill steel* and rods *other than wire rod,* of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.
ex 73.11 Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, *other than sheet piling.*
ex 73.12 Hoop and strip, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled.
ex 73.13 'Electrical' sheets and plates, of iron or steel, *other than those with a watt-loss, regardless of thickness, of 0.75 watt or less.*
ex 73.13 Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled and of a thickness of 2 mm or more.
ex 73.13 Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness of more than 1 mm but less than 3 mm, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates.*
ex 73.13 Sheets and plates, of iron and steel, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness of 1 mm or less *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates.*
ex 73.13 Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, zinc-coated or lead-coated, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates.*
ex 73.15 Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars, of high carbon steel or alloy steel, *other than forged.*
ex 73.15 Wire rod, of high carbon steel or alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.
ex 73.15 Bars, rods *other than wire rod,* hollow mining drill steel, angles shapes and sections of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded.
ex 73.15 'Electrical' sheets and plates, of alloy steel, *other than those with a watt-loss, regardless of thickness, of 0.75 watt or less.*
ex 73.15 Sheets and plates, of alloy steel, not further worked than hot-rolled, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates.*
ex 73.15 Sheets and plates, of alloy steel, not further worked than cold-rolled and of a thickness of less than 3 mm, *other than 'electrical' sheets and plates.*

Licensing arrangements

Licences will be valid for one month. Applications should be submitted on form ILB/A to Import Licensing Branch at the address below. Separate applications must be made for each description listed in annex 2 to this notice to which the products being imported must closely correspond. Quantities must be stated in tonnes.

Licences will be freely issued following the receipt of a properly completed form ILB/A and the following additional information or documentation:

1 A copy of the purchase contract or contracts which constitute the grounds for the application

2 For products originating in the third countries listed in annex 1 to this notice the product description so far as commercial usage is concerned as well as all the characteristics of the contract which have led to the fixing of the delivery price at destination

3 For products originating in other third countries, a full description (including relev-

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ant technical specifications) and an indication of the corresponding or closest heading in terms of the list at annex 2 to this notice

4 The effective price (basic price plus extras) established by contract free-at-frontier duty-paid, *except* in the case of products originating in the third countries listed in annex 1 to this notice

5 In the case of products originating in the countries listed in annex 1 to this notice:

the effective price free-at-destination per tonne;

the ECSC producers' list price selected for calculating the delivered price or the third country offer on which alignment has been authorised;

details of extras for size and/or quality per tonne; and where applicable

other extras (to be specified); and

any rebates per tonne (reasons to be given)

6 The date of the purchase contract for the products which it is proposed to import and the proposed date and place of importation

7 Where applicable, whether the products in question, whatever their origins, are intended for processing under contract and subsequent re-export to the third country of origin and

8 A declaration that no rebate not mentioned in the purchase contract or contracts will be granted.

This notice supersedes notices to importers 1650 and 1652. Notice to importers 1659 (Romania) is also superseded since Romania is one of the countries with which the commission has concluded an agreement on the volume and price of exports to the community in 1978. From 4 August therefore, only those iron and steel products of Romanian origin which fall within the terms of this notice or notice to importers 1630 will require the authority of a surveillance licence in order to be imported into the UK. Products not covered by those notices may be imported without the need for an individual import licence under the provisions of the open general import licence of 13 June 1977.

Warning

Licences will not be issued where the information set out above is not provided, and in view of the need to provide time for any consultations with the EEC commission which may be necessary, traders are strongly urged to apply for licences at least 15 days prior to the arrival in the UK of the products concerned.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 388/389.

Annex 1

Third country steel suppliers with which the EEC commission has concluded agreements on the volume and price of their exports to the community in 1978:
Australia, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Hungary, Japan, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

NTI 1696

Because of pressure on space, the remainder of the following tables will be published in 18 August issue.

Annex 2

Basic prices in force for iron and steel products

Tariff heading/Description of product	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
73.01 B(1)	
Hematite pig iron with a content of less than 0.5% phosphorus and 1.0% or more of manganese and:	
a Between 1.0% and 3.0% included silicon	149.35
b From more than 3.0% to 3.5% included silicon	153.63
c From more than 3.5% to 4.0% included silicon	157.52
73.01 B(2)	
Basic steel making pig iron with a content of less than 0.5% phosphorus and 1.0% or less silicon and:	
a Between 0.4% to 2% included manganese	133.79
b From more than 2.0% to 6.0% included manganese	138.85
73.01 B(3)	
Special hematite pig iron for the preparation of spheroidal graphite pig iron with a content of less than 0.5% phosphorus and a content of less than 0.1% manganese	152.85
73.01 C	
High phosphorus foundry pig iron with a content of 0.5% or more phosphorus and a content of:	
a Between 1.0% and 3.0% included silicon	153.24
b From more than 3.0% to 3.5% included silicon	157.52
c From more than 3.5% to 4.0% included silicon	161.41
73.01 D	
Other pig iron (to an analysis not covered by the above headings)	161.41
73.02 A(1)	
Ferro-manganese with a content of more than 2.0% carbon (high carbon ferro-manganese) and with a content of manganese of:	
a Less than 75%	272.65
b From 75% to less than 76%	276.15
c From 76% to less than 77%	279.65
d From 77% to less than 78%	283.54
e From 78% to less than 79%	287.04
f 79% and more	290.93
ex 73.02 AI	
High carbon ferro-manganese fines (73.02 AI) with granulometry 0 to 10 mm inclusive and manganese content over 65%	232.00
73.07	
Blooms, billets and slabs:	
73.07 AI	
Blooms and billets:	
1 In mild steel to no standard specification:	
Dimensions:	
a 50 < 60 mm	248.15
b 60 < 70 mm	240.35
c 70 < 150 mm	224.80
d 150 ≤ 200 mm	219.00
e >200 ≤ 250 mm	213.15
2 All balanced, rimmed and semi-killed steels with a maximum silicon content of 0.10%:	
Extra over the effective price in category 1 above	12.05
3 Killed steels, ie steels having a minimum tensile strength of 50 kg/mm² or 490 N/mm²:	
Extra over the effective price in category 1 above	35.00
4 Killed steels to be analysed in accordance with BS 970, part 1, 1972:	
Extra over the effective price in category 1 above	35.00
73.07 AI and BI	
5 All steels guaranteed to be suitable for heat-treatment with S + P≤0.70%	288.00
	Extra on the basic price above:
Steels with a boron content	+20.00
Steels with a lead addition	+30.00
Steels with a manganese content over 1.50%	+20.00
Resulphurised steels (in addition to the high manganese extra above)	+10.00
Size extras:	
a < 50 mm	Bar basic price (see 73.10 AII b))
b 50 < 60 mm	+40.00
c 60 < 70 mm	+35.00
d 70 < 80 mm	+25.00
e 80 < 100 mm	+15.00
f ≥ 100 mm	Basic billet price
73.07 BI	
Slabs:	
With a thickness of more than 50 mm:	
1 In mild steel to no standard specification	217.65
2 All balanced, rimmed and semi-killed steels with a maximum silicon content of 0.10%	229.10
3 Killed steels, ie steels having a minimum tensile strength of 50 kg/mm ² or 490 N/mm²	252.05
73.07 BIa)	
4 Killed steels to be analysed in accordance with BS 970, part 1, 1972	252.05
5 All steels guaranteed to be suitable for heat-treatment with S + P≤0.70% (see price and extras under subheading 73.07 AI (5)):	

Tariff heading/Description of product	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
73.07 BIb)	
With a thickness 50 mm and less:	
1 In mild steel to no standard specification	232.60
2 All balanced, rimmed and semi-killed steels with a maximum silicon content of 0.10%	244.65
3 Killed steels, ie steels having a maximum tensile strength of 50 kg/mm² or 490 N/mm²	267.60
4 Killed steels to be analysed in accordance with BS 970, part 1, 1972	267.60
5 All steels guaranteed to be suitable for heat-treatment with S + P≤0.70% (see price and extras under subheading 73.07 AI (5)):	
73.08 excluding 73.08 AI	
Coils of iron or steel, sheets/plates for re-rolling	

	A as rolled	B pickled
1 For qualities:		
BS 1449 – HR4, HR14, HR15		
Less than 2 mm	253.00	263.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	250.00	260.00
3 mm and over	248.00	258.00
2 For qualities:		
BS 1449 – HR2, HR3, HR34/20K, HR37/23, HR43/25K		
BS 4360 Grades 40A/B, 50A		
Less than 2 mm	262.00	272.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	259.00	269.00
3 mm and over	257.00	267.00
3 For qualities:		
BS 1449 – HR1, HR4K, HR14K, HR15K		
BS 4360 Grade 50B		
BS 1501 – 151		
BS 1501 – 154		
Less than 2 mm	270.00	280.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	267.00	277.00
3 mm and over	265.00	275.00
4 For qualities:		
BS 1449 – HR40/30K, HR43/35K, HR46/40K, HR50/45K, HR50/35K, HR54/35K		
Less than 2 mm	279.00	289.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	276.00	286.00
3 mm and over	274.00	284.00
5 For other qualities:		
Less than 2 mm	302.00	312.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	299.00	309.00
3 mm and over	297.00	307.00

	Basic price without extra
73.10 AI	
Wire rod:	
1 In qualities:	
R10, R12, R15, B15, B18, B20 and K20 (and other equivalent qualities):	
a Rounds from 5.5 mm to 13 mm inclusive	250.20
b Other sections, all sizes	294.95
2 In qualities:	
R06 (fine wire), BS 4449, R14 (cold heading) R18CH, R14, R08 (fine wire), K13, K19 (and other equivalent qualities):	
a Rounds from 5.5 mm to 13 mm inclusive	260.20
b Other sections, all sizes	304.95
3 Other qualities excluding those in items 4 and 5:	
a Rounds from 5.5 mm to 13 mm inclusive	277.45
b Other sections, all sizes	322.15
4 Wire rod for welding electrodes	298.30
5 High carbon wire rod (C < 0.6% with S + P≤0.07%) guaranteed to be suitable for heat-treatment	347.00
The extras for special analysis are the same as those given for semis under subheadings 73.07 AI and BI (5)	

	Extra
Dimension extras:	
5 mm	+136.00
5.5 mm	+105.00
6 mm	+77.00
6.5 mm	+62.00
7 mm to under 8 mm	+47.00
8 mm to under 10 mm	+31.00
10 mm to under 12 mm	+18.00
12 mm to under 13 mm	+14.00
Heat treatment and other treatment, extras:	
Pickling	+26.00
Pickling and coating	+42.00
Annealing	+46.00

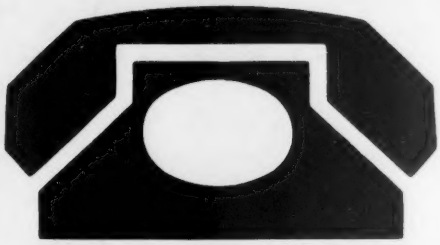
continued on page 338

OTAR: help for exporters

Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757) can give you directly, or through your regional office, up-to-date information on the tariffs and customs regulations of overseas countries, import licensing regulations and restrictions including import quotas; certificate of origin; consular invoices and fees; labelling and marking requirements; foodstuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals; agency legislation, setting up of a subsidiary company and the imports of samples. It also provides information, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on health regulations for livestocks meat, animal products and plants and seeds. In short, OTAR can help on almost all legislation which affects the entry of British goods into overseas countries.

Inquiries which concern the countries of more than one sub-section (excluding inquiries involving only EEC countries) should be made to OTAR's co-ordination sub-section on 01-248 5757 extension 452 or 454.

For information on specific countries, phone the number and extension given below



01-248 5757

extension

Sub-section A

1 Co-ordination of EEC regulations, requirements and common customs tariff (CCT), Denmark, France incl. overseas territories, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus

408 Denmark (incl. Faroe Islands and Greenland). EEC legislation on tariff and non-tariff barriers relative to community trade

423 France and French overseas departments, French overseas territories, Comoros

439 Greece (incl. Dodecanese Islands), Turkey, Cyprus

2 Benelux, Dutch overseas territories, Irish Republic, Italy, Federal Republic of Germany

288 Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, St Eustatius, St Martin (Dutch), Saba, Suriname

466 Italy, Irish Republic

467 Federal Republic of Germany

Sub-section B

Efta countries, Spain, Gibraltar, Malta, Israel, Macao

458 Israel, Norway, Gibraltar, Malta

459 Austria, Sweden, Switzerland

460 Portugal, Finland, Iceland, Macao

461 Spain, Canary Islands, Andorra

Sub-section C

1 North America, Bahamas, Bermuda, West Indies

455 Canada

456 USA (incl. Alaska, Caroline Islands, Guam, Hawaii, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Samoa (US), Virgin Islands (US), Wake Island)

7312 Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts/Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands

2 South and Central America

474 Argentina, British Antarctic Territories and Antarctica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Falkland Islands, Haiti, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

476 Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

Sub-section D

Africa

462 Algeria, Ceuta and Melilla, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara

471 Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Jibuti (Djibouti), Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha and Ascension Islands, Sao Tome/Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa (with Botswana, Lesotho, SW Africa and Swaziland), Zambia, British Indian Ocean Territory

472 Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire

473 The Gambia, Liberia, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Sierra Leone

Sub-section E

Australasia and South East Asia, Eastern Bloc, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

401 New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, W. Samoa, Chatham Islands, Cook Islands, Niue Islands, Tokelau Islands, Philippines

468 Australia, Solomon Islands, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island (Indian Ocean), Nauru, New Hebrides, Papua New Guinea, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

469 Brunei, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tonga, Gilbert Islands (incl. Ocean Island, Phoenix and Northern Line Islands), Tuvalu, Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Island

Sub-section F

Middle East (Part) and Asia (Part)

420 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Japan, Korea Democratic Peoples Republic, Korea Republic of, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Yemen Arab Republic, Yemen Peoples Democratic Republic

475 Iraq, Jordan, Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia), Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Vietnam Socialist Republic of, Bahrain, Iran, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates

Tariff heading/Description of product	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
Alla)	
Reinforcing bars for cement or concrete with small indentations, beads, hollows, or reliefs resulting from rolling, whether or not deformed or not deformed after rolling:	
Under 12 mm	251.55
12 mm to under 20 mm	227.65
20 mm to under 25 mm	213.85
Over 25 mm	221.55
73.10 Allb)	
Other bars:	
1 In mild steel to no standard specification:	
a Rounds up to 13 mm diameter	281.00
b Rounds over 13 mm diameter	265.45
c Square and hexagonal bars	281.00
d Flats less than 20 mm wide	331.55
e Flats from 20 mm to under 50 mm wide	285.05
f Flats 50 mm wide and over	277.35
2 To BS 4360: grades 40A and 43A; To Lloyds Register: grade A:	
a Rounds up to 13 mm diameter	286.85
b Rounds over 13 mm diameter	271.30
c Square and hexagonal bars	286.85
d Flats less than 20 mm wide	337.40
e Flats from 20 mm to under 50 mm wide	290.90
f Flats 50 mm wide and over	283.20
3 High strength steels ≥50 kg/mm² or 490 N/mm² other than those in items 4 and 5:	
a Rounds up to 13 mm diameter	323.80
b Rounds over 13 mm diameter	308.25
c Square and hexagonal bars	323.80
d Flats less than 20 mm wide	374.35
e Flats from 20 mm to under 50 mm wide	327.85
f Flats 50 mm wide and over	320.15
4 Killed steels to analyses in accordance with BS 970: part I: 1972:	
a Rounds up to 13 mm diameter	353.00
b Rounds over 13 mm diameter	337.45
c Square and hexagonal bars	353.00
d Flats less than 20 mm wide	403.55
e Flats from 20 mm to under 50 mm wide	357.05
f Flats 50 mm wide and over	349.35
	Basic price without extra
5 Steels guaranteed to be suitable for heat-treatment, S + P≤0.070%	347.00
Extras for special analyses are those given for semis under subheadings 73.07 AI and BI (5)	
Size and treatment extras are the same as those given for bars of alloy structural steels, under subheading 73.15 BVb)2	
73.11 Ala)1	
Shapes and sections, not further worked than hot rolled or extruded, joists and universal beams and columns with a web measurement of less than 80 mm:	
a In mild steel to no standard specification	293.45
To BS 4360: Grades 40A and 43A; to Lloyds Register: Grade A	299.30
b All other qualities	342.10
73.11 Ala)2	
Shapes and sections, not further worked than hot rolled or extruded, joists, universal beams and columns and channels with a web measurement of 80 mm or over:	
a To BS 4360: Grades 40A and 43A; to Lloyds Register: Grade A	271.25
b All other qualities	319.85
73.11 Alb)	
Other sections:	
1 In mild steel to no standard specification:	
a Equal angles up to 40 mm × 40 mm	277.10
b Equal angles over 40 mm × 40 mm	265.45
c Unequal angles	279.05
d Tees and other sections	286.85
2 To BS 4360: Grades 40A and 43A; to Lloyds Register: Grade A:	
a Equal angles up to 40 mm × 40 mm	282.95
b Equal angles over 40 mm × 40 mm	271.30
c Unequal angles	284.90
d Tees and other sections	292.70
3 In other qualities:	
a Equal angles up to 40 mm × 40 mm	319.90
b Equal angles over 40 mm × 40 mm	308.25
c Unequal angles	321.85
d Tees and other sections	329.65
73.12 All	
Hoop and strip not further worked than hot rolled:	
1 For qualities:	
BS1449 – HS4	

Tariff heading/Description of product	A as rolled	B pickled
Less than 2 mm	260.00	270.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	258.00	268.00
3 mm and over	256.00	266.00
2 For qualities: BS 1449 – HS2, HS3, HS12, HS17, HS22, HS34/20, HS37/23, HS43/25, HS43/28:		
Less than 2 mm	269.00	279.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	267.00	277.00
3 mm and over	265.00	275.00
3 For qualities: BS 1449 – HS4K, HS12, HS17, HS22K, HS34/20K:		
Less than 2 mm	277.00	287.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	275.00	285.00
3 mm and over	273.00	283.00
4 a For qualities: BS 1449 – HS1, HS37/23K:		
Less than 2 mm	286.00	296.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	284.00	294.00
3 mm and over	282.00	292.00
		Extra
b For steels which are guaranteed suitable for heat-treatment with S + P≤0.070%: BS 1449 – HS10, HS40, HS50		
As for 4 a above		+40.00
		Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
5 a For other qualities:		
Less than 2 mm	309.00	319.00
2 mm up to but not including 3 mm	307.00	317.00
3 mm and over	305.00	315.00
		Extra
b For steels which are guaranteed suitable for heat-treatment with S + P≤0.070%: BS 1449 – HS60, HS70, HS80, HS95		
As for 5 a above		+40.00
73.13		
Sheets/plates not further worked than hot-rolled		
73.13 All		
Electrical sheets, other:		
a Sheets with a maximum watt loss of 3 W 6		447.00
b Sheets with a maximum watt loss of 3 W		459.00
		Extra
Extras:		
For widths from 500 up to but not including 1000 mm		+23.00
For insulation		+27.00
For cutting into sheets		+19.50
73.13 Bla)		
		Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
Sheets/plates not further worked than hot-rolled:		
1 For qualities: BS 1449 – HR14 (unkilled), HR15 (unkilled), HR4 (unkilled) BS 4360 – 40A And also the following quality in thicknesses from 3 mm to 25 mm inclusive – Lloyds Grade A:		

(Eua tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	263.00	258.00	257.00
Over 10 to 40	264.00	255.00	254.00
Over 40 to 80	273.00	266.00	261.00
Over 80 to 120	287.00	276.00	274.00
Over 120	294.00	286.00	281.00

2 for qualities BS1449 – HR4 (killed), HR14 (killed), HR15 (killed) BS 4360 – Grades 43A, 43B, 43C, 40B, 40C and also the following quality in thicknesses over 25 mm – Lloyds Grade A, Grade B:

(Eua/tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	272.50	267.50	266.50
Over 10 to 40	273.50	264.50	263.50
Over 40 to 80	282.50	275.50	270.50
Over 80 to 120	296.50	285.50	283.50
Over 120	303.50	295.50	290.50

3 a for qualities BS 1449 – HR40/30K, HR43/35K, HR46/40K, HR50/45K. HR50/35K, HR54/35K, BS1501–151, BS4360–50A, Lloyds Grades C, D, AH27

(Eua tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	288.60	283.60	282.60
over 10 to 40	289.60	280.60	279.60
Over 40 to 80	298.60	291.60	286.60
Over 80 to 120	312.60	301.60	299.60
Over 120	319.60	311.60	306.60

b For steel with guarantee of aptitude for heat treatment with S + P ≤ 0.070%, Ck10, Ck15, Ck22, Ck35, Xc10, Xc18, Xc25, Xc35
Price as above under this head + 30.00
4a For qualities Lloyds Grades DH27, AH32, DH32, BS 4360 – Grades 40D, 43D, 50B, BS 1501–161

(Eua/tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	293.30	288.30	287.30
Over 10 to 40	294.30	285.30	284.30
Over 40 to 80	303.30	296.30	291.30
Over 80 to 120	317.30	306.30	304.30
Over 120	324.30	316.30	311.30

b For steel with guarantee of aptitude for heat ment with S+P ≤ 0.070%, Ck45, Ck55, Xc42, Xc48
Price as above under this heading + 30.00
5a For qualities BS 4360 Grades 40E, 50C, Lloyds Grades EH27, EH32, AH36, DH36, BS 1501–211

(Eua/tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	299.00	294.00	293.00
Over 10 to 40	300.00	291.00	290.00
Over 40 to 80	309.00	302.00	297.00
over 80 to 120	323.00	312.00	310.00
Over 120	330.00	322.00	317.00

b For steel with guarantee of aptitude for heat treatment with S + P≤0.070%, Ck60, Xc55,
Price as above under this heading + 30.00
6 For other qualities

(Eau/tonne)

Width (mm) / Thickness (mm)	600 to under 1100	1100 to 2000	Over 2000
3 to 10	308.50	303.50	302.50
Over 10 to 40	309.50	300.50	299.50
Over 40 to 80	318.50	311.50	306.50
Over 80 to 120	332.50	321.50	319.50
Over 120	339.50	331.50	326.50

73.13 Blib)

Sheets/plates, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness greater than 1 mm	
1 Supplied in coils	
a For commercial qualities: CR4GP (not stabilised)	308.00
b For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3GP (not stabilised), CR2GP, CR34/20, CR37/23	319.00
c For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP, CR3GP stabilised), CR3FF (not stabilised), CR1GP	330.00
d For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3FF (stabilised), CR2FF, CR1FF, sheets/plates for special enamelling, low-perlite structural steels for cold-forming 340 N/mm², 380 N/mm², 420 N/mm², 460 N/mm², 500 N/mm²	339.00
	Extra
For widths from 500 to 999 mm, extra of	+10.00
For widths from 1000 to 1500 mm, extra of	+7.00
For widths of 1501 mm and over, extra of	+20.00

Tariff heading/Description of product	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid Eua
2 Supplies in cut lengths	
a For commercial qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP (not stabilised)	319.00
b For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3GP (not stabilised), CR2GP, CR34/20, CR37/23	330.00
c For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP, CR3GP (stabilised), CR3FF (not stabilised), CR1GP	341.00
d For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3FF (stabilised), CR2FF, CR1FF, sheets/plates for special enamelling, low perlite structural sheets for cold-forming 340 N/mm², 380 N/mm², 420 N/mm², 460 N/mm², 500 N/mm²	350.00
	Extra
For withs from 500 to 999 mm, extra of	+10.00
For widths from 1000 to 1500 mm, extra of	+7.00
For widths of 1501 mm and over, extra of	+20.00
73.13 BIIc)	
Sheets/plates not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness equal to or less than 1 mm	
1 Supplied in coils	
a For commercial qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP (not stabilised)	317.00
b For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3GP (not stabilised), CR2GP, CR34/20, CR37/23	328.00
c For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP, CR3GP (stabilised), CR3FF (not stabilised), CR1GP	339.00
d For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3FF (stabilised), CR2FF, CR1FF, sheets/plates for special enamelling, low perlite structural steels for cold-forming 340 N/mm², 380 N/mm², 420 N/mm², 460 N/mm², 500 N/mm²	348.00
	Extra
For widths from 500 to 999 mm, extra of	+10.00
For widths from 1000 to 1500 mm, extra of	+7.00
For widths of 1501 mm and over, extra of	+20.00
2 Supplies in cut lengths	
a For commercial qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP (not stabilised)	328.00
b For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3GP (not stabilised), CR2GP, CR34/20, CR37/23	339.00
c For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4GP, CR3GP (stabilised), CR3FF (not stabilised), CR1GP	350.00
d For qualities: BS 1449 – CR4FF, CR3FF (stabilised), CR2FF, CR1FF, sheets/plates for special enamelling, low perlite structural steel for cold-forming 340 N/mm², 380 N/mm², 420 N/mm², 460 N/mm², 500 N/mm²	359.00
	Extra
For widths from 500 to 999 mm, extra of	+10.00
For widths from 1000 to 1500 mm, extra of	+7.00
For widths of 1501 mm and over, extra of	+20.00
	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid
73.13 BIVc)1	
other sheets electro-zinc coated	
1 Supplied in coils	
a Commercial qualities BS 1449 – CR4	
thickness:	
less than 0.50 mm	420.00
0.50 < 0.70 mm	388.00
0.70 < 0.90 mm	365.00
0.90 < 1.25 mm	353.00
1.25 mm and over	343.00
b Other qualities	
Thickness:	
Less than 0.50 mm	450.00
0.50 < 0.70 mm	418.00
0.70 < 0.90 mm	395.00
0.90 < 1.25 mm	383.00
1.25 mm and over	373.00
2 Supplied in cut lengths	Extra
	+15.00
	Effective price (basic + extra) cif duty-paid
73.13 BIVc)2	
Other galvanised sheets supplied in coils	
Coils: qualities: BS 2989 Grades Z1 and Z2	
Thickness:	
Less than 0.5 mm	412.00
From 0.5 mm up to but not including 0.7 mm	382.00
From 0.7 up to but not including 1.0 mm	362.00
From 1.0 up to but not including 1.25 mm	348.00
1.25 mm and over	335.00
Quality BS 2989 Grade Z5	
Thickness:	
Less than 0.5 mm	462.00
From 0.5 up to but not including 0.7 mm	432.00
From 0.7 up to but not including 1.0 mm	412.00
From 1.0 up to but not including .125 mm	398.00
1.25 mm and over	385.00

NTI 1696

Because of pressure on space, the remainder of the tables will be published in 18 August issue.

1697: imports of restricted textiles from Taiwan

Following representations from the Taiwan Textile Federation (TTF), the UK has agreed to allow it to administer the 1979 quotas for restricted textiles originating in Taiwan.

Detailed administrative arrangements have yet to be agreed, and a further notice will be issued as soon as this has been done.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 311.

1698: extension to the validity period of import licences

Further to notice to importers 1688 (*Trade and Industry*, 14 July), and to avoid any possible misunderstanding, traders should note that any licences that have already been endorsed with the condition that the goods concerned are shipped on or before the date quoted on the licence, will not of course be further extended.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 264.

1699: iron and steel imports from the USSR

Notice to Importers 1673 (*Trade and Industry*, 7 April) set out the licensing arrangements for imports of certain iron and steel products of USSR origin for the period 1 January to 30 June 1978.

Following appropriate consultations with the EEC, further import facilities amounting to 7500 tonnes have now been established for the second half of 1978 making total facilities for the full year of 15 000 tonnes, covering the following products:

Tariff heading/Description of goods
ex 73.07
Blooms, billets, slabs and sheet bars (including tinplate bars), of iron or steel, rolled.
73.08
Iron or steel coils for re-rolling.
73.09
Universal plates of iron or steel.
73.10
Bars and rods (including wire rod), of iron or steel, hot-rolled, forged, extruded, cold-formed or cold-finished (including precision-made), hollow mining drill steel.
73.11
Angles, shapes and sections, of iron or steel, hot-rolled, forged, extruded, cold-formed or cold-finished; sheet piling of iron or steel, whether or not drilled, punched or made from assembled elements.
73.12
Hoop and strip, of iron or steel, hot-rolled or cold-rolled.
73.13
Sheets and plates, of iron or steel, hot-rolled or cold-rolled.
73.14
Iron or steel wire, whether or not coated, but not insulated.
73.15
Alloy steel and high carbon steel in the forms mentioned in headings 73.06 to 73.14.
73.18
Tubes and pipes and blanks therefore, of iron (other than of cast iron) or steel, excluding high pressure hydro-electric conduits.

The basic arrangements set out in notice to importers 1673 remain unchanged and traders seeking an allocation from the quota for imports to be made by 31 December 1978 should now submit applications in the appropriate form to reach Import Licensing Branch not later than 31 August 1978.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 388/389.

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Phosphate mining at Taiba, Senegal.

West Africa's changing face: 1

Though the decolonisation processes of the 1960s meant the breaking down of some previously watertight spheres of influence, the gulf between anglophone and francophone Africa has remained as a deterrent to a broader knowledge by British industry of the commercial opportunities in the countries of former French west Africa. But times are changing and there are indications that a new interest is being developed. In this, the first of a two-part series, Allan Butler, first secretary (commercial) at the British embassy in Dakar, considers the prospects for British exports in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania.

Senegal

Basically an agricultural country dependent on the groundnut crop for its foreign exchange earnings, Senegal is also developing a comprehensive industrial base, providing greater stability to the economy. While the national per capita income is about 350 dollars, and for most of Senegal's population of 4½ million only perhaps 130 dollars per annum, there is a flourishing and modern sector centred on the quasi-European city and port of Dakar.

Commercial agriculture is dominated by the production of groundnuts, the main export commodity. Rice and sugar are grown for the domestic market and there is a small export trade in cotton and market-garden produce. But the whole economy feels the effect when, as this year, there is a drastic fall in the size of the groundnut crop. The fishing industry is already a leading economic sector and has a further significant potential.

Mining is so far limited to phosphates (of which Britain is a leading purchaser) and salt. There are large-scale deposits of iron ore in the interior and deposits of heavy oil have also been found. Prospecting for copper and oil is still going ahead. Manufacturing industry is concentrated mainly on Dakar and on processing agricultural produce – groundnut cake and oil, flour milling and fish processing. But there is a wide range of light industrial plants – for textiles, brewing and bottling, paints, soaps, cement, tobacco and vehicle assembly, for example. Refined sugar is produced for the home market and there is an oil refinery. Dakar also has an industrial free zone, but as yet, it is hardly developed.

Senegal normally runs a loss on its current account and balances the budget only at the expense of limiting its capital development. The necessity to import large amounts of cereals in drought years has imposed another continuing burden which is in part offset by increasing earnings from tourism. The currency, backed by the French through membership of the franc zone, and the country's moderate political stance provides a stability which is attractive to foreign aid donors. Apart from an extensive European development fund (EDF) programme, World Bank and bilateral French and other European aid, assistance from Arab countries is increasing strongly. Iran is emerging as an important investor. Debt servicing is still under control.

Britain has only £9.5 million (in 1977) of this £300 million market (mainly petroleum and petroleum products, cigarettes, and machinery) which is only one-third of what Senegal sells us (£31.3 million, principally phosphates).

There is little British involvement in the economy which continues to be dominated by the French, either through branches of companies based in France, or through participation with Senegalese in local companies under French management. But the major export opportunities lie in the public and the parapublic sectors where the Senegalese government is anxious to draw in other international trading partners to lessen French influence.

There is a need for consultancy services and plant and equipment for a number of hydro-agricultural development schemes; for plant for the processing of fish and agricultural produce; for road construction plant and port handling equipment.

A new industrial complex including an oil refinery and associated petrochemical plant is planned, with finance to come in part from Iran and, possibly, the World Bank. The Iranians are also participating in projects to expand the present phosphate workings. There is a major project for phosphoric acid and fertiliser plants using phosphate waste products. Tax incentives for investment are offered, particularly in respect of the Dakar industrial free zone. The other principal mining development for the long term concerns the iron ore deposits at Falémè. It depends largely on the development of transport and cheap power, which will, it is hoped, be forthcoming from the Organisation de la Mise en Valeur du Fleure Sénégal project. This is part of a series of hydro-power and irrigation projects along the Senegal river for which the international finance being sought jointly by Senegal, Mali and Mauritania looks like being forthcoming.

Mali

Mali is a large, sparsely populated land-locked country. With a per capita income of 70 to 80 dollars for its population of 6.5 million, it is one of the poorest countries in the world. Agriculture, livestock and river fishing contribute some two-thirds of gnp. But only 20 per cent of the land area is suitable for cultivation and most of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture. Apart from rice, other cereals and sugar for domestic consumption, groundnuts and cotton are produced as export crops. Stock-raising was formerly important but has suffered severely in successive droughts.

The small industrial sector concentrates mainly on processing domestic agricultural produce and on small-scale consumer products (textiles, matches, shoes, etc). There is no heavy industry.

Mining activity is confined to small-scale extraction of salt and quarrying. Bauxite, iron, gold and other mineral deposits of varying quality have been located but their future exploitation depends particularly on the development of cheap power and better communications. Prospecting is under way for uranium, manganese and oil.

Internal communications are poor, with many roads impassable in the wet season. All imports come via Dakar and the 800-mile railway to Bamako, or by road from Abidjan.

Mali has not been able to balance its books since independence and has required an annual French subvention (in 1977 this was probably as much as 10 per cent of the provisional budget). This support will continue so long as the French underwrite the convertibility of the Malian franc.

Capital development is therefore heavily dependent on external aid, France being the main source of assistance. The United States, Germany, the USSR and Arab countries are also aid donors, as is the UK. The EDF has an extensive programme and there are several World Bank projects.

Britain's share of the small Malian market is under 5 per cent (in 1977, £1.5 million), mainly in consumer goods, Land-Rovers and some machinery. Apart from the necessity to compete with a strong French business interest in a francophone market, the main impediment to increased British exports in consumer goods is Mali's extreme poverty and lack of funds for financing imports. Export credit is essential. Procurement for development projects is naturally dominated by the aid donors.

This means that Britain's main hopes for a significant increase in its share of the market must lie in internationally financed projects. The best opportunities at present are for equipment and services for several major rice-development and other water-engineering schemes, roads projects, and power-generating schemes. The largest of these will be the hydropower barrage at Manantali, part of the OMVS scheme. The Office du Niger at Segou, which controls the largest irrigated rice-growing area in west Africa, is also an important potential partner.

Market background

Senegal, Mali and Mauritania are francophone, but national identity prevents them from being a homogeneous market. All are relatively poor, struggling to develop their mineral potential, and to improve agricultural production which is the mainstay of probably 90 per cent of their population.

All are associated with the EEC under the 1975 Lomé convention and exports from Britain as a community member therefore have a relatively favoured position. Each has a European development fund programme of projects open to British competition. All are members of the African Development Bank and British companies are eligible to compete for the increasing number of projects financed in this region by the African development fund, to which the UK is a contributor. The three countries, all with Moslem majorities, are attracting increasing amounts of Arab finance for development projects, procurement for which is not tied to a particular source of supply. This gives British consultants and manufacturers good ground on which to meet French competition.

French commercial influence, while undoubtedly strong, should not be overrated. Links between local companies and French suppliers are extensive, but there is a general tendency (endorsed by the government in Senegal) to diversify sources of supply both for capital and, to a lesser extent, consumer goods.

Even French-managed local companies will do so, to Britain, provided price and delivery are competitive. As a rule of thumb, French goods in this market are expensive, but can be delivered quickly.

Britain has only about 3 per cent of the market covered by Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde (the last three will be the subject of an article next week), and the value of the market in these six countries is worth, possibly, £650 million in 1977. There is ample scope for improvement if only because Britain imports from these same countries twice as much as it sells them (£23 million in 1977).

Mauritania

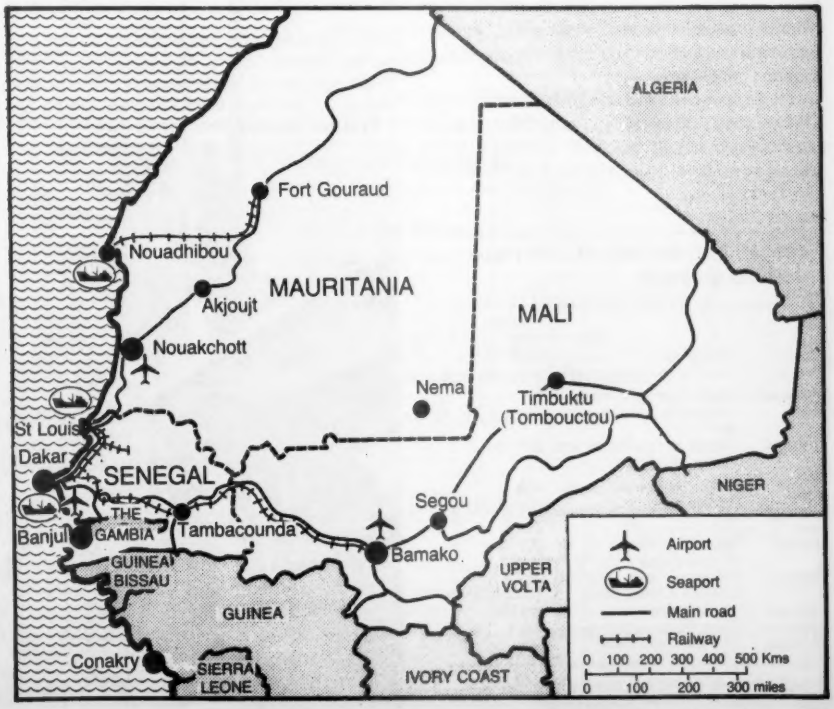
Another large, sparsely populated country (population 1½ million with a gnp per capita of 340 dollars in 1976), Mali has an economy precariously based on exports of iron ore, supplemented by grants and development loans from Arab sources. The country is largely arid and unproductive and most food is imported. Extensive cattle stocks have been lost in successive droughts. The fishing industry, although still largely uncontrolled, is growing fast as an export earner. The seas off Mauritania are among the richest fishing grounds in the world.

But Mauritania's mineral wealth is significant. Practically all overseas earnings come from iron mines, still operating in spite of the Polisario campaign to close them, though exports have been considerably reduced. Copper is also mined, though production has recently been temporarily pending further investment to exploit new deposits. There are small pockets of chromium, as yet unexploitable, and tungsten, as well as small reserves of phosphate. Prospecting is under way for wolfram, and uranium as well as oil. Gypsum is mined for export in small quantities.

Mauritania has little manufacturing industry. A sugar refinery has been completed which has no domestic source of raw sugar, and it is about to be joined by a large oil refinery which as yet lacks the necessary crude oil. Even when operational, neither is likely to contribute to the balance of payments or to provide much employment.

With a depressed world market for both iron ore and copper, Mauritania would be hard put to balance its 'normal' budget. But the requirements of the war against the Polisario and of development can only be met by substantial external aid. Much of this is available from Arab sources, though with occasional cash-flow problems. Mauritania left the franc zone in 1973.

In spite of its relative proverty, Mauritania



Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde

Next week's article covers the commercial prospects in the Republic of Guinea (Conakry) and the two small, former Portuguese colonies, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde.

has an ambitious development programme. The Guelbs project, recently launched to open up new iron ore deposits, includes a pellatising plant and a railway extention. An investment of some 75 million dollars will be required for a sulphide process plant to maintain copper production and there are also plans for a cement plant.

In infrastructure, several road projects are now under way, financed by Arab or EDF money. The Chinese are building a deepwater harbour near Nouakchott and there are further port developments at Nouadhibou and Dakhla. Nouakchott airport is getting a new terminal building and other installations.

The third development plan, 1976-80, also includes a range of smaller industrial projects such as a spinning and weaving plant and a bottling plant. For most of these, on present form, external finance should be forthcoming. There is also talk of establishing a television service.

The British share of the Mauritanian market (£4.5 million in 1977) has not risen much above 5 per cent, though we are a significant buyer of iron ore. British firms are well placed to secure contracts from the 510-million-dollar Guelbs project, launched mainly with World Bank, French and Arab participation.

While some major contracts are closed to British competition through tied aid, there are opportunities for services and wide range of industrial equipment in projects financed by Arab funds, and to a lesser extent the EDF, particularly for mining, railway transport and power generating and distribution. British consultants have secured contracts in the fishing and port development sector, both of which present additional modest opportunities for equipment.

Dakar embassy

Commercial work in all these countries is the responsibility of the British embassy at Dakar, Senegal and embassy staff visit the other countries at regular intervals. British subjects can obtain visas for Senegal in London, and for Mauritania and Mali relatively easily in Dakar if necessary.

There are good air communications through Dakar and businessmen should consider including Senegal in their itinerary when planning visits to countries such as Nigeria or the Ivory Coast.

Senegal, Mali and Mauritania: major industrial projects

Country	Description	Possible value (US$ million)
Mauritania	Guelbs iron ore mining and processing; railway extension	510
Senegal	Falémé iron ore mines with railway development	500
Senegal Mali Mauritania	OMVS [1] hydropower and irrigation projects	450 (first stage)
Mali	Selingué barrage	300
Senegal	Keur Farah Pahlavi oil refinery complex	265
Senegal	Phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid and fertiliser plants	200
Senegal	Diama barrage	135+
Senegal	Dakar container terminal	65
Senegal	St Louis textile plant	65

[1] Organisation de la Mise en Valeur du Fleure Sénégal.

Overseas trade export services

BA's low freight rates to US Pacific coast

British Airways has applied to the UK and United States' governments to introduce new freight rates to America's west coast cities of Los Angles and San Francisco.

The new rates represent a discount of between 35 and 47 per cent on equivalent general cargo rates and are at least 10p a kg cheaper than any rate currently offered by other airlines.

Contract holders will now be able to ship containerised freight to San Francisco for as little as 53p kg in the Sunday-Tuesday off-peak period and for 58p the rest of the week. Loose freight will be 5p a kg more expensive.

Los Angeles off-peak containerised freight will be carried for 54p and in the peak for 59p. Loose freight again will be 5p a kg more expensive.

Only agents and shippers who have agreed to send at least 800 tonnes of freight a year to United States by British Airways will be entitled to use the off-peak rates, which remain like before as low as any rate of any kind from any carrier.

The airline recently introduced its new, long-range Rolls-Royce 747s on both routes – daily to San Francisco and five times a week to Los Angeles, which also has a twice-weekly DC10 service.

The Rolls-Royce powered aircraft, unique to British Airways, is able to carry full loads of freight even on long routes such as those to the west coast.

Further information: circle 122

Tor Line charters new ferry

A new 8600 tonne ro-ro ferry *Tor Felicia* has been chartered by Tor Line AB of Gothenburg from Swedish operators Stena Line to supplement present fleet capacity.

Tor Felicia has capacity for 1700 linear metres of cargo or up to 570 trailer equivalent units. Heavy and awkward shipments of up to 40 m long, 6 m wide and 6 m high can be carried on her main trailer deck.

Initially, *Tor Felicia* will be used on the company's UK/Scandinavia/continent services, trading to and from Immingham in the UK.

Further information: circle 123

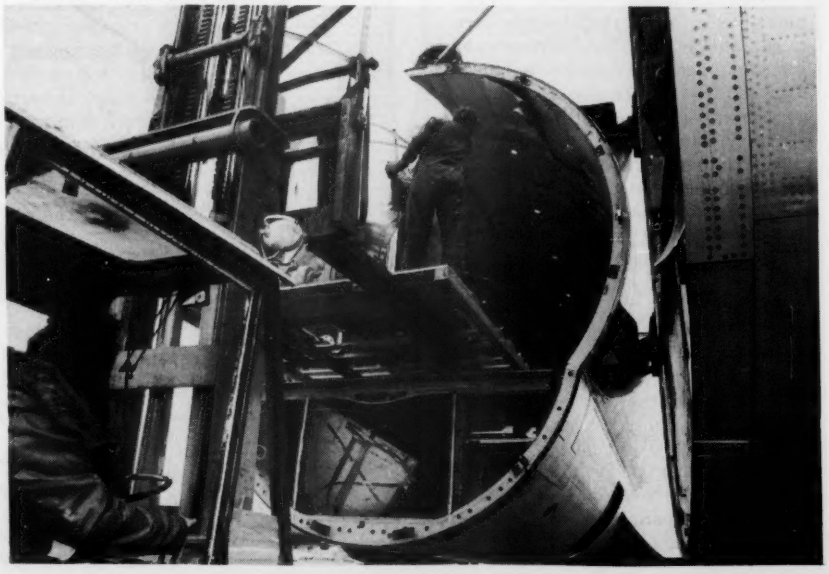
Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Guppy gulps it in

One of 13 steel vats, some over 10 ft high with capacities of 5000 litres, destined for Nigeria being loaded into the Guppy, a specially converted CL44 swing-tail freighter with a 'swollen' fuselage which gives an interior and loading door height of 3.45 m. Mercury Aviation Services chartered the Guppy for the flight from Stansted airport direct to Lagos.

Further information: circle 124



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Overseas trade exhibitions

UK developing interests in £6 million Japanese photo market

From Graham Fry, British embassy, Tokyo

British photographic products are now very competitive on the Japanese market because the high costs of distribution and labour in Japan give UK manufacturers a real competitive edge.

This point was made by Jon Whiting, chairman of the British Photographic Exports Group, speaking after the third exhibition of British photographic and audio-visual equipment at the British Export Marketing Centre (BEMC) in Tokyo from 18 to 22 July.

His words reflected the progress that the photographic industry has made in the Japanese market over the last few years.

Reliable statistics are hard to compile, but Britain's exports of photographic equipment to Japan are worth at the very least £6 million, and are growing. They consist in the main of products for commercial use: most of the products are highly sophisticated, and some are the most advanced of their type in the world.

The industry has attacked the Japanese market energetically. Two years ago when the first BEMC exhibition on this theme was planned, so many British companies wanted to take part that it was possible to split them into two groups and have two exhibitions in successive months. Eleven of the companies at the 1978 exhibition had exhibited at one or other of the earlier promotions. Some of them had found agents at that time and were coming back to the BEMC to support them.

De Vere (Kensington), for example, appointed a local trading company as agent for its enlargers after the earlier exhibition. Since then its business has expanded steadily and the company took orders worth £21,000 this time and is looking to a further increase in sales over the coming year.

Agents appointed

Some of the other companies were less successful in 1976, but reported much more serious interest this time. Pag Films whose products include 16 mm magnetic-film recorders and other equipment for professional filmmakers, had discussions with a local trading company at the earlier exhibition, but these later came to nothing. Pag came back to Tokyo in the hope that the situation had changed, and found that it had – the Japanese seemed to be taking a much more positive interest in importing foreign products. This time Pag had a choice of potential agents, and the firm was hoping to appoint one of them soon after the exhibition. Pag sold all its exhibits and saw good prospects for future business.

A rather similar case was Bowens of London. Bowens already had an agent in 1976 when they exhibited electronic flash units, but the company was disappointed with the agent's performance. Their agreement was ended and Bowens began to look for a new agent. At the 1978 exhibition, detailed discussions were held with another local company and an agency agreement may be signed soon. Bowens also sold all its exhibits and is looking forward to business worth over £100,000 in the coming year.

These are not isolated examples. Altogether 11 of the 18 exhibiting companies were looking for agents, and by the end of the week, all had one or more local companies interested. Total orders during the exhibition were worth about £50,000, but together the companies expect to do business worth nearly £1 million in the coming year. An encouraging feature is that this total comes from adding up the estimates of 14 companies, each of which was able to forecast business of at least £15,000, and many of which currently have no sales in the market.

As these figures imply, there were some very serious Japanese visitors to the show. Some of them were attracted by a short series of technical seminars which was held during the exhibition. This was the first attempt to hold seminars at an exhibition on this theme, but will prove a useful tool at future exhibitions as more companies become established in the market.

Links renewed

At a well-attended opening reception, the guest of honour was Kinji Moriyama, president of the Japan Camera Inspection Institute. Mr Moriyama has a fine collection of antique cameras, and the British ambassador, Sir Michael Wilford, used the occasion to present him with a 60-year old British Kodak. This was already on display when the British exhibitors were invited round to the institute to see Mr Moriyama's collection. They were then invited to go on to a special buffet party hosted by Mr Moriyama in their honour.

These links between the two industries will be renewed in a few months' time at Photokina in Cologne. The British companies will be maintaining their export pressure there and in Japan, and there are already plans to hold another exhibition of photographic and audio-visual equipment at the BEMC in 1980.

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

At the BEMC photo fair (left to right), delegates at one of symposia; Kinji Moriyama receives a 1916 Kodak camera for his museum of vintage cameras from British ambassador Sir Michael Wilford; on the Studio Accessories stand; Mr Moriyama and the British ambassador study De Vere's enlargers; Ilford demonstrates its Speed System.

ECGD cover for overseas fairs

As a supplement to the ordinary insurance policy exporters have with Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD), cover is available for goods exhibited at fairs overseas against the rather special risks involved.

The standard cover includes sales at overseas fairs
Sales made at overseas fairs are covered under the standard ECGD policy against eventualities of loss, such as the insolvency of the buyer or his default, or exchange difficulties preventing transfer of payment from the buyer's country.

Special cover
Under a special policy supplementary to an exporter's main policy, ECGD can cover also the risks of loss arising while the goods are being exhibited or are on their way to be exhibited.
The risks covered are loss caused by destruction or damage resulting from war (including 'civil war, hostilities, rebellion and insurrection') occuring in the country where the goods are being exhibited or in a country through which the goods are travelling on their way to be exhibited,
or war between any of the countries involved,
or the requisition or confiscation of the goods in these countries,
or any measure or decision in the country where the goods are exhibited which prevents their re-export to the UK.
For more information about this special cover, get in touch with the nearest regional office of ECGD.

ECGD's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2. There are regional office in:

Central London 01-437 2292 **North London** 01-808 4570 **South London** 01-686 9921 **Belfast** Belfast 31743 **Birmingham** 021-233 1771 **Bristol** Bristol 299971 **Cambridge** Cambridge 68801 **Glasgow** 041-332 8707 **Leeds** Leeds 450631 **Manchester** 061-228 3621.

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Leipzig Fair
3/10 September 1978

German Democratic Republic

Visit Leipzig Fair.
It offers wide-ranging information, top-level contacts, unique business opportunities. It presents a comprehensive display of GDR quality goods for export. It illustrates the dynamic economic achievements of all the CMEA countries. It unites 6,000 enterprises from 50 countries in an exhibition of high technology products and consumer goods. And backs all this with a major programme of conferences and lectures, as well as first-class customer assistance and information services.
You mustn't miss it!

Reserved accommodation bookable in the UK. Direct flights by British Airways. Inclusive arrangements and Rent-a-Car facilities. Further information from Leipzig Fair Agency, Dept. T ,19 Dover Street, London W1X 3PB Telephone 01-493 3111.

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Textile and clothing quotas. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 9 December 1977, reported that the Australian government had announced its intention to establish a clothing, textile and footwear review committee to advise the government on the six-monthly adjustment of quota levels that might be required to avoid disruption and contraction of employment in these industrial sectors.

The committee recently submitted recommendations on adjustments of quota levels for textiles and clothing which, it maintained, would be needed during the next quota period in order to maintain stability.

The recommendations, which were accepted by the government, have established the following quotas for the items and periods shown:

Period beginning 1 September 1978

	Total allocation	Percentage of annual notional base quota level
Acrylic apparel yarn	0.4 million kg[1]	43
Continuous filament polyester and polyamide yarn		
Carpet	0.91 million kg	40
Other	1.4 million kg	50
Woven man-made fibre fabrics	17.5 million m²	50
Knitted man-made fibre fabrics	1.26 million kg	
Knitted man-made fibre pile fabrics	50% of 1974/75 imports	50
Knitted net fabrics and fabrics resembling lace	$1.15 million vfd (value for duty)	50
Woven terry towels	1.27 million m²	50
Woven terry towelling	50% of 1975/76 imports	50
Unraised cotton sheeting	10 million m²	50
Bed linen	$600,000 vfd	60
Curtains	1.9 million m²	50
Sleeping bags	120 000 units	40
Knitted coats, jumpers, cardigans and the like garments	6.00 million garments [1]	45
Knitted and woven blouses and shirts for women, girls and infants	4.04 million garments	45
Knitted outer-garment shirts for men, boys and infants	3 million garments	45
Knitted tracksuits for adults	0.225 million garments	50
Knitted tracksuits, playsuits, rompersuits and like garments for children and infants	2.55 million garments	50
Knitted and woven dresses	1.635 million garments	50
Woven coats for women, girls and infants	0.3 million garments	40
Woven sleepwear for women, girls and infants	1 million garments	50
Certain outer-garments for women, girls and infants	3.335 million garments	50
Knitted or woven trousers and jeans for men, youths and boys	1.62 million garments	45
Men's and boys' woven shirts and knitted under-garment shirts	3 million garments	50
Suits for men and boys	38 500 garments	50
Woven coats for men and boys	0.108 million garments	40
Knitted or woven shorts for men and boys	0.75 million garments	50
Men's and boys' woven sleepwear	0.6 million garments	50
Knitted or woven dressing gowns, kimonos, bath gowns and like	0.115 million garments	50
Swimwear	0.374 million garments	45
Babies' napkins	Nil [1]	
Plastic pilches	2.5 million garments	50
Rainwear of pvc or rubber-coated fabric	$326,000 vfd	40
Coats and jackets made from pvc film	$141,000 vfd	40
Leather coats and jackets	27 000 garments	45

Period beginning 1 July 1978

	total allocation
Brassieres	1.33 million garments

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Cosmetics and toilet preparations. The Australian government has asked the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the question of whether assistance should be given to the production in Australia of cosmetics and toilet preparations (tariff item 33.06.900).

UK firms and trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, details of which will be announced later, should advise the Industries Assistance Commission as soon as possible at PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600.

Evidence may be submitted through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, tel. 01-930 2524, who will represent UK interests if authorised.

The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1256/78.

Passenger motor vehicles. The Australian government has announced that the global import quota for 1978 is now set at 88 000 vehicles which represents a reduction of 6000 on the original estimate.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Non-metric measuring devices. The Australian Minister for Science recently announced clarification of how the importation of non-metric measuring devices would be controlled by the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations which will be introduced from 1 October.

A copy of the announcement may be obtained from Department of Trade, Room 336, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 29345/2.

Phthalic anhydride: anti-dumping. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 27 January, reported that the Australian government had received a complaint from local industry that phthalic anhydride (tariff item 29.15.100) originating in the UK, West Germany, Italy and the Philippines was being dumped in Australia.

Inquiries were initiated at that time to establish whether export prices to Australia were less than the prices charged on the domestic market of the countries concerned.

A public hearing is to take place in Canberra on 7 September: submissions should be sent immediately to the Department of Business and Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Customs (Appraisement and Revenue Branch), PO Box 80 Canberra ACT 2600 Australia.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 36493.

Light commercial motor vehicles. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 10 March, reported that the Australian government had requested the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the question as to whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of light commercial vehicles, including derivatives of passenger motor vehicles, and four-wheeled drive vehicles falling under tariff items 87.02.2, 87.02.310 or 87.02.390.

The government has now considered the recommendations of the IAC and has decided not to alter existing arrangements which apply to local production of these vehicles.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 511/78

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Bangladesh

Import controls and import duties. The Import Policy Order 1978/79 issued by the government of Bangladesh and covering the period 1 July 1978 to 30 June 1979 has been received. Previous import policy orders have been biannual, covering the periods 1 July to 31 December and 1 January to 30 June.

Import duties on various tariff items have been affected by the fiscal measures of the annual budget recently announced. This advance information, taken from the budget speech, does not identify the items by their CCCN numbers. The amendments, which are mainly reductions, are as follows (previous duty rates in brackets):

Powdered and condensed milk 5% (10%); buffalo horn free (40%); spices (excluding *tej pata*) 75% (125%); jams, jellies etc 100% (150%); blended flavouring concentrates 125% (150% and 115%); natural calcium carbonate 50% (115%); natural graphite 25% (40%); white and coloured cement 50% (140% and 115%); marble chips 50% (75%); sodium bicarbonate 50% (75%); sodium bichromate 50% (115%); sodium hydrosulphite 50% (115%); bandaging materials 10% (50% and 25%); anti-cancer and anti-leprosy drugs free (10%); surgical gloves 40% (125% and 40%); synthetic wool tops 75% (150%); natural and synthetic hand knitting woollen yarn 75% (100% and 50%); nylon twine cordage, rope and cables 50% (55%); cellulose acetate tow 50% (150%); certain beverage bottles 50% (110%); railway track construction materials of iron or steel 10% (20%); jute and textile bobbins of aluminium 50% (20%); nuts and bolts 75% (115%); synthetic fabrics excluding suitings 225% (175%); mixed synthetic fabrics and synthetic suitings 175% (125%); storage battery containers and separators 50% (125%); radio parts 75% (150%); radio sets, built-up one-band 50% (150%); component kits of one-band radios 20% (free); component kits of multi-band radios 75% (100%); ball bearings 40% (20%); electric capacitors 25% (100%); trucks and buses, ckd 20% (30%); taxi cabs up to 750 cc, built-up 10% (25%); or ckd 5% (15%); taxi cabs exceeding 750 but not exceeding 1000 cc, built-up 15% (25%); or ckd 10% (15%); taxi cabs exceeding 1000 but not exceeding 1300 cc, built-up 25% (40%); or ckd 15% (30%); auto-rickshaws 5% (15%); fare meters 10% (75%); motor cycles, built-up 25% (50%); or ckd 15% (35%); gramophone records under 12 in diameter 100% (150%).

No further information is available concerning the duty changes. Inquiries from British exporters about the import policy order to OTAR (giving the CCCN nos. and description of the goods) 01-248 5757 ext. 7062/420.

Brazil

Jaw-type lathe-plates. Customs Policy Council resolution 3198, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 23 June, established reference prices for jaw-type lathe-plates under tariff heading 84.48.02.00.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Hand files: reference prices. Customs Policy Council resolution 3211 published in *Diaro Oficial*, 10 July, established reference prices for hand files under tariff heading 82.03.04.00.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Canada

Documentation. From 1 July 1978 a new Canada customs form of invoice replaces forms MB, MA, M, NB, NA and N formerly used for invoicing British or foreign goods sold or sent on consignment to Canada.

A transitional period of one year will be allowed to enable exporters to exhaust existing stocks of the old forms. The new invoice becomes mandatory on 1 July 1979.

Invoice forms are available from commercial stationers. British exporters wanting further information on the new invoice, as well as a short list of possible suppliers, should contact OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 455.

Ethiopia

Exchange control. The National Bank of Ethiopia has issued a notice reminding all importers that the bank should be consulted about all imports of goods on a 'cash against documents' basis.

The national bank says that unless prior consultation takes place, foreign exchange will not be made available.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5226.

Greece

Imports of fresh veal. It was reported in *Trade and Industry*, 9 June, that imports of fresh veal could be imported from all countries except Rhodesia for a period of two months, ending on 26 July 1978.

This period has now been extended to 30 September 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

India

Tariff and import information. The Indian import policy for 1978-79 has now been received (*Trade and Industry*, 14 April).

It should be emphasised that the liberalisation of the policy referred to previously relates to raw materials, components and permissible spares only.

The 1978-79 import policy follows a completely different format to that previously used, and consequently particular items cannot always be identified in the policy.

Inquiries from British exporters on the policy should therefore include a full description of the goods as well as the CCCN numbers and should be addressed to OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420/475/7062.

Indonesia

Guns. The Indonesian government has announced an import duty and sales tax surcharge on the import of revolvers, pistols and hunting guns from 7 June.

For tariff item 93.02 90 revolvers and pistols, and tariff item 93.04 20 hunting guns, the import duty will be 100 per cent and the sales tax 20 per cent. For tariff item 93.04 30 sports guns, the import duty will be 50 per cent and the sales tax 10 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Libya

Import licensing. A directive was issued on 22 May announcing that state import monopolies should cease to issue import licences to private sector merchants.

It is therefore expected that within three months the public sector will have assumed full control of the importation of goods where a specified import monopoly exists.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Malaysia

Heat-insulating and refractory bricks. The Malaysian government has passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 7) Order 1978, which came into force on 15 June 1978 and amends the first schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1978. This lays down an import duty of 25 per cent on heat-insulating bricks CCC no. 69.01.000 and refractory bricks CCC no. 69.02.000. The Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Amendment) (No. 4) Order 1978, was also passed on 15 June 1978 so that an import licence is no longer necessary to import these items into the Federation of Malaysia.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Hi-fi equipment. The Malaysian government has passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 6) Order 1978, which came into force on 15 June 1978 and amends the first schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1978 and lays down an import duty of 45 per cent on loudspeakers tariff 85.14.120, amplifiers tariff 85.14.130, radio receivers, sound recorders and reproducers tariff nos. 85.15.519 and 85.15.539.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Precious stones and gold bullion. The Malaysian government has passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 8) Order 1978, which came into force on 22 June 1978. It amends the first schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1978 and lays down an import duty of 5 per cent on loose diamonds and other precious stones falling under CCC nos. 71.01 and 71.02 and a nil import duty on gold bullion falling under CCC no. 71.07.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Malta

Import licensing. The Malta *Government Gazette*. 21 July, carried legal notice 82 of 1978 which had the immediate effect of adding the following goods to the list of items requiring an import licence:

Roasted and/or salted almonds, hazelnuts, peanuts and mixed nuts in consumer size containers or in bulk.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Nigeria

Tariff and prohibition amendments. Legal notice 44, published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette*, 15 June, reduces the rate of import duty payable on components imported completely knocked down for local assembly of passenger cars as follows:

tariff 87.020 components for passenger cars imported CKD by a manufacturer approved in that behalf by the commissioner: for cars not exceeding 1800 cc engine capacity 15 per cent for cars exceeding 1800 cc but not exceeding 2000 cc engine capacity 40 per cent.

Legal notice 45 also published in the *Official Gazette*, 15 June, amends item 13 of the import prohibition order to prohibit the import of eggs in the shell, including those for hatching, but excluding those imported by recognised hatcheries approved in that behalf by the commissioner.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

Shipping. The Nigerian federal military government has announced that the implementation of the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Decree (*Trade and Industry*, 23 June, page 690) has been deferred until further notice.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064.

Romania

Sulina free zone. On 27 March, the council of state of the Socialist Republic of Romania announced the setting up of a free zone at Sulina on the Black Sea, near the Romanian/Soviet border (*Buletinul Official* 26, 30 March 1978).

In the Sulina free zone, handling, storing, sorting, conditioning, packaging, processing, marking, exhibiting, testing, selling, buying operations can be carried out, as well as other operations specific to free zones.

The goods brought to the Sulina free zone can be sent to another country or conveyed in transit on the territory of the Socialist Republic of Romania, observing the regulations on conveying in transit. They can also be brought to the customs territory, observing the regulations on import.

For managing the Sulina free zone, the Sulina free zone administration was set up on 1 April 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Saudi Arabia

Standards. The following Saudi Arabian standards were published in the *Official Gazette*, 28 February, and will take effect at the end of August:

33/1397H/1977	Tungsten filament lamps for general lighting service
34/1397H/1977	Methods of testing standard 33/1397
35/1397H/1977	Evaporative air coolers (desert coolers)
36/1397H/1977	Methods of testing standard 35/1397
37/1397H/1977	Steel carbon dioxide cartridges for fire extinguishers
38/1397H/1977	Methods of testing standard 37/1397
39/1397H/1977	Mechanical tests for welded joints
41/1397H/1977	Methods for sampling milk and milk products
50/1397H/1977	Margarine and its testing methods
51/1397H/1977	Electrical switches for domestic purposes
52/1397H/1977	Methods of testing standard 51/1397
53/1397H/1977	Symbols for electric installation circuits
54/1397H/1977	Pvc insulated cords with circular copper conductors
55/1397H/1977	Pvc insulated cables with circular copper conductors
56/1397H/1977	Methods of test for pvc insulated cables and cords with circular copper conductors
57/1397H/1977	Gas-fired domestic storage water heaters
58/1397H/1977	Methods of testing standard 57/1397
65/1397H/1977	Non-automatic equilibrium balance of ordinary precision with double pan and base
66/1397H/1977	Calibration method for non-automatic equilibrium balance of ordinary precision with double pan and base

The Saudi Arabian Standards Organisation issues English translations of these standards and copies, except those regarding foodstuffs, may be obtained from British Standards Institution Library, 2 Park Street, London W1, tel. 01-629 9000.

Copies of standards 41/1397 and 50/1397 are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

Exporters requiring technical advice should contact Technical Help to Exporters, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4SQ, tel. 0442 3111, telex 82424.

South Africa

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 14 July:

R.1445, CCCN. 01.02, 37.08, 39.03, 70.06, 84.18, 84.23, 84.34 and 90.17: The rate of duty on a live animals of the bovine species is reduced from 300c each to free b chemical products and flash light materials, of a kind and in a form suitable for use in photography, not packed for retail sale, is reduced from 5 per cent to 4 per cent c pressure-sensitive regenerated cellulose film is increased from free to 25 per cent or 25c per m² less 75 per cent d certain cast, rolled, drawn or blown glass is amended to 20 per cent e laundry centrifuges (excluding types with a dry mass loading capacity not exceeding 7 kg) is amended from 3 per cent (general) and free (preferential) to free (general), f scrapers is increased from free to 15 per cent g blocks, plates, cylinders and lithographic stones, prepared for printing purposes (excluding offset duplicating masters) is amended from 3 per cent (general) and free (preferential) to free (general) and h certain indwelling cannulae for intravenous transfusion or infusion is increased from free to 15 per cent.
R. 1476, CCCN. 37.01 and 90.07: 1 The rate of duty on certain radiographic plates and film in the flat, sensitised, unexposed, is amended from 20 per cent or 150c per m² (general) and free (MFN) to 20 per cent or 150c per m² (general). 2 The rate of duty on photographic flash bulbs is reduced from 30c per 100 to free.
R.1450, CCCN. 70.13. The tariff heading 70.13 is restated and the rate of duty on certain articles of glass is increased.

General rebates

R.1448, item 410.01, CCCN. 01.02: The provision for a rebate of duty on animals of the bovine species for breeding purposes is withdrawn as such animals are now free of duty.
R.1449, item 410.03, CCCN. 03.01: The provision for a rebate of duty on fish, fresh, chilled or frozen, taken from the sea by any ship licensed in accordance with the regulations promulgated in terms of the Sea Fisheries Act 1973 (act 58 of 1973), is extended so that such fish may also be entered under rebate of duty if landed by another ship which is also licensed in accordance with the said regulations.

Import surcharge

R.1446, item 161.00, 173.00, 175.00 and 178.00. CCC 01.02, 70.06 and 75.03.10 are no longer liable to the surcharge.
R.1477, item 176, CCCN 84.17.70, 84.63.90.10, 85.12.80.20 and 90.07.60.50 are no longer liable to the surcharge.

Industrial rebates

R.1447, item 307.04, CCCN 39.03: The effect of this amendment is that pressure-sensitive plates, sheets, strip, film or foil of regenerated cellulose may not be entered under rebate of duty for the manufacture of plastic goods of plate, sheet, strip or film.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list 23/78, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 28 July, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

Twine, cordage, ropes, cables, plaited or not of polyamide, polypropylene and polyethylene classifiable under tariff subheadings 59.04.50.20, 59.04.50.15, 59.04.50.05.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 21 July.

R.1492, CCCN 40.11, 87.01, 87.02, 87.04: The rates of duty on rubber inner tubes and certain rubber pneumatic tyres and tyre cases including those imported with the vehicles and chassis of sub headings 87.01.60, 87.02.15, 87.02.22, 87.02.24, 87.02.60, 87.02.67, 87.02.70, 87.04.20, 87.04.25, 87.04.30 and 87.04.40 are amended.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Spain

Duty-free quota. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 26 July, published an order of 29 June, of the Ministry of Commerce, modifying an order of 12 December 1977, which had fixed the maximum quantity of coal suitable for coking (CCCN 27.01 A) to be imported during 1978 as part of the duty-free quota.

The maximum quantity to be imported during 1978 will now amount to 3 930 000 tons.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Sri Lanka

Investment promotion zones. Copies of a brochure 'Sri Lanka, Greater Colombo Economic Commission' are available with detailed information about the commission and the investment promotion zones from the Economic Division or the Trade Commissioner of the High Commission for Sri Lanka, 13 Hyde Park Gardens, London W2 2LU, tel. 01-262 1841.

Sweden

Petrol: reduction in lead content. The lead content of petrol sold on the Swedish market is to be reduced from 0.4 g per litre at present to a maximum of only 0.15 g, under the provisions of new government regulations.

Because of the technical problems involved, the reform will only start on 1 January 1980 for low-octane petrols, and 18 months later for high-octane grades.

The maximum quantity of benzene permitted will at the same time be cut to 5 per cent by volume.

Oil companies which have difficulty in carrying through the change by the deadline will be granted temporary exemption.

The government's move was due to a growing concern about the health and environmental hazards of car exhaust fumes.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Thailand

Regulations for beverages. The Thai Ministry of Public Health has issued notice 46 which came into force on 2 June adding a new paragraph to item 4 of notice 36 (*Trade and Industry*, 7 October 1977). The new paragraph is:

In using preservatives for drinks mixed with caffeine and vitamins, the preservatives named in (7) may be used. If more than one type is used, the total quantity shall not exceed the smallest quantity of the preservatives of the type allowed. In the case of not using the preservatives named in (7) or where alcohol is used as preservative solvent, it may so be done when approval is granted by the Office of the Food and Drugs Committee.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Venezuela

Tariff amendments. A reduction in customs duty for items falling within tariff nos. 90.03 and 90.04 has been introduced from 10 June 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1977	1970	£ million	£ million			18.845 p	£ million 10,762	1,938	1,946	£ million		
1971	101.7	32 677	9 625	1 988	1 922	112	−148	52	18	1 074	279	795
1972	104.0	34 519	9 636	1 721	2 035	35	−145	48	15	126	−701	827
1973	110.8	36 132	10 233	1 730	2 377	1 365	597	102	379	−883	−2 354	1 471
1974	109.1	35 682	10 001	1 964	2 300	561	634	81	−109	−3 515	−5 195	1 680
1975	107.3	35 269	9 640	1 695	1 921	−842	−429	−111	−65	−1 617	−3 205	1 588
1976	109.8	35 406	9 444	1,633	1 900	97	5	23	9	−859	−3 510	2 651
1977	110.9	35 116	9 087	1 764	2 081	444	234	108	17	165	−1 612	1 777
1976 2nd qtr.	109.3	8 793	2 346	400	468	−12	−66	−20	−45	−281	−909	628
3rd qtr.	109.6	8 879	2 377	414	488	5	−2	14	16	−304	−1 097	793
4th qtr.	111.3	8 928	2 343	422	496	105	73	3	5	−279	−961	682
1977 1st qtr.	110.5	8 758	2 259	419	502	234	125	51	102	−493	−947	454
2nd qtr.	110.9	8 639	2 292	433	508	229	164	39	−5	−365	−764	399
3rd qtr.	111.1	8 829	2 265	456	530	−30	−31	5	−44	537	54	483
4th qtr.	111.2	8 890	2 271	457	541	11	−25	13	−36	486	45	441
1978 1st qtr.	112.1	9 084	2 245 p	446	548	249	125	53	61	−305	−574	269
2nd qtr.		9 115 pe								224	−136	360
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.6	+2.7	−0.9	+1.6	+4.9							
on a year earlier	+0.7	+4.6	−1.9	+7.4	+9.1							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)				Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults		Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count		On a balance of payment basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)					at 1975 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 16,296	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands		1975 19,462	1975 22,667
1971	100.1	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	118.7	775.8	3.4	130.9		84.6	83.3
1972	102.3	102.0	105.3	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.0	854.9	3.7	147.3		84.5	92.4
1973	110.0	110.5	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.1	611.0	2.6	307.0		96.8	105.6
1974	106.3	108.9	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.1	599.7'	2.6'	302.7'		103.9	107.9
1975	100.6	102.2	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	226.6	929.0	3.9	150.0'		100.0	100.0
1976	101.3	103.2	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	261.9	1 269.8'	5.4'	120.4'		109.9	105.5
1977	102.6	103.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	340.1	261.7	288.5	1 378.1	5.8	155.6'		118.9	107.0
1977 1st qtr.	103.2	105.3	103.3	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.0	1 329.5	5.6	..		115.7	109.1
2nd qtr.	101.9	103.0	102.5	103	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.3	1 340.6	5.6	157.7		118.0	109.8
3rd qtr.	102.8	103.8	104.3	112	184.7	16.5	340.5	267.7	288.3	1 414.6	5.9	151.9		124.1	106.4
4th qtr.	102.3	103.3	104.4	110	187.4	13.1	330.6	272.1	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1		117.9	102.6
1978 1st qtr.	103.3	104.2	106.3	129	190.6	9.5	326.7	279.0	310.8	1 409.4	5.9	187.7		120.3	114.3
2nd qtr.			108.0		195.8	7.7	340.7	284.6		1 372.7	5.7	210.3		122.8 p	110.2 p
1977 Aug.	102.8	103.5	104.7	116	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	287.7	1 410.3	5.9	153.4		123.4	101.3
Sept.	102.7	103.6	103.5	107	185.7	15.6	338.1	269.2	291.0	1 434.9	6.0	147.2		125.9	107.5
Oct.	102.0	103.1	102.7	116	186.5	14.1	333.8	271.0	295.8	1 431.5	6.0	156.0		119.4	101.3
Nov.	102.0	102.7	103.1	108	187.4	13.0	329.9	272.0	300.5	1 429.6	6.0	159.4		115.3	98.4
Dec.	102.9	104.1	106.9	104	188.4	12.1	328.0	273.3	304.8	1 422.3	6.0	165.0		118.9	108.1
1978 Jan.	102.9	103.6	104.9	125	189.5	9.9	324.9	277.1	306.3	1 419.2	5.9	180.3		112.2	114.6
Feb.	103.6	104.1	106.8	120	190.6	9.5	324.2	279.2	311.2	1 409.0	5.9	187.0		127.4	111.3
Mar.	103.4	104.8	107.0	142	191.8	9.1	331.0	280.6	314.8	1 400.0	5.9	195.8		121.4	116.9
Apr.	105.9	106.6	106.7	132	194.6	7.9	337.4	282.7	325.7	1 387.1	5.8	203.7		126.1	104.3
May	103.9 p	104.5 p	108.4	124	195.7	7.7	341.5	284.7	326.8 p	1 366.4	5.7	209.9		120.1	114.3
June			108.6	133	197.2	7.4	343.1 p	286.3 p		1 364.7	5.7	217.4		122.1 p	112.0 p
July							340.2 p	288.7 p		1 371.3 p	5.7	211.0			
% change latest 3 months															
on prev. 3 months	+1.3	+1.3	+1.6	+0.5	+2.7		+3.2	+2.0	+4.9	−2.2		+8.8		+2	−3½
on a year earlier	+1.5	+0.7	+5.4	+25.9	+7.7		−1.3	+9.1	+13.5	+0.4		+35.0		+4	+½

p Provisional pe Preliminary e Estimate .. Not available ' Average of available months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Wholesale price indices in July

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by ¾ per cent in July to 288.7 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was 1 per cent higher. Half of the increase was due to higher prices for vehicles and mechanical engineering products. The index increased by 2¼ per cent in the latest three months.

Higher prices for sugar, animal and poultry foods and bacon curing, meat and fish products accounted for most of the 1 per cent rise in July in the index for the output of the food manufacturing industries. This index increased by 2¾ per cent in the latest three months.

The change in the index for all manufactured products measured over a 12-month period fell for the twelfth successive month to 8½ per cent in July. In July 1977 the 12-month change on this index was 21 per cent. The increase over the latest six months was 4¼ per cent.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry fell by ¾ per cent in July to 340.2. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen by 1¼ per cent.

The index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries fell by 1¼ per cent in July, mainly because of the effect of the appreciation of sterling on import prices. More than half the fall was accounted for by crude oil. This index has increased by ½ per cent in the latest three months.

The provisional index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries showed little change over the previous month. Lower prices for coffee and imported oils and oilseeds were offset by higher prices for imported cereals and sugar and home-produced bacon factory pigs.

1970 = 100

	May	June p	July p
Output prices (home sales)			
All manufactured products	284.7	286.3	288.7
Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	292.9	294.7	297.4
Products of the food manufacturing industries	307.9	310.1	313.2
Prices of materials and fuel purchased			
By manufacturing industry	341.5	343.1	340.2
materials	346.6	348.4	345.1
coal, gas and electricity	293.0	293.2	293.0
By manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	353.9	354.9	350.9
materials	362.5	363.7	359.2
By food manufacturing industries	318.2	321.1	321.3
materials	318.1	320.8	321.0

p Provisional.

Inquiries: 01-215 3775.

Retail sales in June

Volume

The final seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in June is 108.6 (1971 = 100), close to the provisional estimate of 109 and suggesting a continuation of the higher level of trade in May.

The volume of sales in the second quarter was 1½ per cent higher than in the first quarter. This continues the recovery in the quarterly figures which began in the third quarter of last year bringing trade in the second quarter of this year to a level 5½ per cent higher than a year earlier. In the first half of 1978 the volume of trade was 3½ per cent above the average of 1977. Non-food shops have contributed a little more than food shops to the recovery.

For the main components of total trade, the volume of sales by durable goods shops in the second quarter was 4 per cent higher than in the first quarter which was depressed by an erratically low March figure for these shops. Sales by clothing and footwear shops were

Table 1 Volume of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of sales per week (average 1971 prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 – £ million Final estimates)	All kinds of business (16 296)	Food shops (6 866)	Non-food shops Total (9 430)	Clothing and footwear shops (2 436)	Durable goods shops (1 897)	Other non-food shops [2] (5 097)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	105.3	101.6	107.9	104	113	108
1973	110.3	101.6	116.6	108	127	117
1974	109.0	102.4	113.8	106	122	115
1975	106.7	100.0	111.5	106	119	111
1976	106.5	98.7	112.1	106	122	111
1977	103.6	94.8	110.0	105	119	109
1976						
1st qtr	105.9	99.5	110.6	105	117	111
2nd	106.9	99.6	112.1	106	122	111
3rd	107.3	99.1	113.2	106	125	112
4th	105.9	96.6	112.6	105	124	112
1977						
1st qtr	103.3	94.9	109.3	105	116	109
2nd	102.5	94.7	108.2	101	118	108
3rd	104.3	94.4	111.5	107	121	110
4th	104.4	95.3	111.1	109	121	109
1978						
1st qtr	106.3	96.6	113.3	110	125	111
2nd	108.0	98.1	115.2	110	129	112
1977						
June [1]	102.1	94.7	107.4	99	118	107
July	104.8	94.3	112.4	107	125	110
August	104.7	94.4	112.3	110	118	111
September [1]	103.5	94.4	110.2	106	121	108
October	102.7	94.2	108.9	103	120	108
November	103.1	93.9	109.8	107	118	108
December [1]	106.9	97.3	113.9	114	125	110
1978						
January	104.9	95.1	112.0	105	129	109
February	106.8	96.8	114.1	109	130	111
March [1]	107.0	97.6	113.8	115	117	112
April	106.7	96.5	114.2	108	132	111
May	108.4	98.9	115.4	113	126	112
June [1]	108.6	98.6	116.0	110	130	113
1978						
January-March	106.3	96.6	113.3	110	125	111
1978						
April-June	108.0	98.1	115.2	110	129	112
Percentage increase	1.6	1.6	1.7	–	4	1

[1] Five-week period.
[2] Including department stores and mail-order businesses.

Table 2 Value of retail sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices) 1971 = 100

(Sales in 1971 – £ million Final estimates)	All kinds of business (16 296)	Food shops (6 866)	Non-food shops Total (9 430)	Clothing and footwear shops (2 436)	Durable goods shops (1 897)	Other non-food shops [2] (5 097)
1971	100.0	100.0	100.0	100	100	100
1972	112.0	109.0	114.2	112	118	114
1973	126.9	123.0	129.8	128	136	128
1974	146.7	144.9	148.1	148	144	149
1975	174.4	175.0	174.0	171	168	178
1976	200.1	204.8	196.7	189	187	204
1977	228.0	234.7	223.1	216	206	233
1976						
1st qtr	189.6	193.4	186.8	179	177	194
2nd	196.1	200.3	193.0	187	185	199
3rd	203.4	208.0	200.1	193	190	207
4th	211.4	217.4	207.0	198	197	215
1977						
1st qtr	216.4	223.8	211.0	204	192	222
2nd	222.0	230.4	215.8	204	202	227
3rd	234.2	239.4	230.4	224	213	240
4th	239.4	245.3	235.1	231	219	243
1978						
1st qtr	246.0	249.5	243.5	237	228	252
2nd	254.4	258.5	251.5	243	243	258
1977						
June [1]	222.9	233.5	215.2	202	202	227
July	231.5	236.6	227.8	220	213	237
August	235.8	239.5	233.0	230	209	243
September [1]	235.0	241.4	230.3	222	217	239
October	234.2	241.7	228.7	218	214	239
November	236.3	242.3	231.9	228	213	241
December [1]	246.0	250.6	242.7	244	227	248
1978						
January [1]	241.0	245.0	238.0	223	233	247
February	246.5	249.4	244.4	235	237	252
March [1]	249.8	253.2	247.3	250	217	257
April	250.3	252.3	248.9	235	250	255
May	255.2	260.0	251.6	250	236	258
June [1]	257.1	262.2	253.5	245	244	261
1978						
January-March	246.0	249.5	243.5	237	228	252
1978						
April-June	254.4	258.5	251.5	243	243	258
Percentage increase	3.4	3.6	3.3	3	7	2

[1] Five-week period.
[2] Including department stores and mail-order businesses.

little changed between the quarters while sales[1] by 'other non-food' shops, which include department stores and mail-order businesses, rose by 1 per cent. Sales by food shops rose by 2 per cent between these periods.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the value of total retail sales in June was 14 per cent higher than in June 1977. In the first half of 1978 the average value of sales was 14 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1977.

Inquiries: 01-215 3705.

Notes

The indices for all shops, food shops, and total non-food shops are shown to the first decimal place to help interpretation, but should not be regarded as necessarily accurate to the final digit. The best indication of the recent trend is normally obtained by comparing the average index for the latest three months with the average for the immediately preceding three months, but month-to-month fluctuations may sometimes make it preferable to average two months or four months.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked ' which are of five weeks. The June 1978 sales period was the five weeks from 28 May 1978 to 1 July 1978. The corresponding period in 1977 was the five weeks from 29 May 1977 to 2 July 1977.

The value estimates are compiled inclusive of VAT, and will, therefore, reflect changes in the rates of VAT. The volume estimates, however, are not affected by these changes since the retail price indices used to 'deflate' the value data are themselves inclusive of VAT.

Within the total, sales are analysed by 'kinds of business'; ie the statistics are of sales by particular kinds of shop rather than of sales of particular commodities. For example, while sales by shops classified as food shops are mainly of food, many of them also sell other goods. Similarly, some food is sold by shops classified to other kinds of business.

The seasonally adjusted series include, where appropriate, adjustments for the timing of holidays and adjustments to make allowance for the inclusion of an extra week in the January 1975 trading period. No adjustments are made to the non-seasonally adjusted data.

The article giving the provisional estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales for July and the increase in the value of sales compared with a year earlier will be published later this month.

Hire purchase and other instalment credit business in June

New instalment credit of £459 million was advanced by finance houses and retailers in June, after allowing for seasonal factors. Within this total, finance houses' lending was about the same as in May. Retailers' lending was lower than in April and May. In the second quarter of 1978 total advances were 11 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1978. Finance houses' lending increased by 14 per cent between the two quarters; retailers' lending increased by 7 per cent.

The average weekly value of retailers' instalment credit sales in June was lower than in April or May. In the second quarter of 1978 average credit sales were 7 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1978. Within this total, durable goods shops' sales increased by 3 per cent and those by department stores and other instalment credit retailers (including mail-order houses) by 8 per cent between the two quarters.

The debt outstanding to finance houses and retailers increased by £106 million in June, bringing the total increase in the second quarter of 1978 to £281 million, compared to £245 million in the previous quarter. Amounts outstanding to finance houses increased by £227 million and those to retailers by £54 million during the second quarter. At the end of June, the total amount outstanding to finance houses and retailers was £3,797 million (not seasonally adjusted; 30 per cent more than a year earlier.

Notes

New credit extended is the total amount advanced during the period, including charges; that is credit price of goods, less deposits. Figures for retailers are estimated from the value of their instalment credit sales, which includes both charges and deposits.

Debt outstanding is the total value of instalments remaining to be paid at the end of the period, irrespective of the period in which credit was advanced. Increase in debt during any period equals new credit extended less all repayments made during that period. Figures include 'personal loans' by finance houses.

Table 1 Hire purchase and other instalment credit business seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total		Finance houses[1]		Retailers[2]	
	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt	New credit extended	Change in debt
1971	2 036	251	990	165	1 046	86
1972	2 466	438	1 222	296	1 244	142
1973	2 846	444	1 453	332	1 393	112
1974	2 508	−164	1 037	−160	1 471	−4
1975	2 981	−13	1 201	−55	1 780	42
1976	3 586	343	1 535	202	2 051	141
1977	4 392	625	2 072	500	2 320	125
1976						
3rd	913	100	392	56	521	44
4th	968	127	421	83	547	44
1977						
1st qtr	1 007	144	457	89	550	55
2nd	1 047	136	486	118	561	18
3rd	1 149	186	544	148	605	38
4th	1 189	159	585	145	604	14
1978						
1st qtr	1 260	245	626	182	634	63
2nd	1 393	281	716	227	677	54
1977						
July	360	51	164	40	196	11
August	402	75	199	64	203	11
September	387	60	181	44	206	16
October	378	45	179	39	199	6
November	401	53	198	45	203	8
December	410	61	208	61	202	—
1978						
January	429	85	213	62	216	23
February	418	82	201	57	217	25
March	413	78	212	63	201	15
April	463	93	231	66	232	27
May	471	82	243	74	228	8
June	459	106	242	87	217	19
1978						
Jan-Mar	1 260	245	626	182	634	63
Apr-Jun	1 393	281	716	227	677	54
Percentage increase	11		14		7	

[1] Direct business only: ie excluding agreements block discounted with finance houses by retailers. [2] Durable goods shops, department stores and 'other instalment credit retailers'. For further definitions see footnotes to table 2.

Table 2 Retailers' instalment credit sales seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of value of sales per week (current prices)

1971 = 100

	Total[1]	Durable goods shops	Department stores	Other instalments credit retailers[2]
(HP and other instalment credit sales in 1971 £ million[3])	(1130)	(370)	(139)	(621)
1971	100	100	100	100
1972	117	117	106	120
1973	132	119	119	143
1974	139	94	122	169
1975	165	115	143	200
1976	190	136	162	229
1977	217	142	171	272
1976				
3rd	193	136	165	234
4th	200	138	166	244
1977				
1st qtr	205	135	166	256
2nd	210	136	153	266
3rd	227	148	179	284
4th	227	148	184	283
1978				
1st qtr	237	167	183	291
2nd	254	172	199	315
1977				
July	220	147	170	275
August	229	144	171	292
September [4]	231	151	194	286
October	224	141	179	282
November	228	147	189	285
December [4]	228	155	183	281
1978				
January	243	180	187	293
February	244	166	189	302
March [4]	228	157	175	281
April	262	185	178	326
May	256	168	196	321
June [4]	246	165	217	300
1978				
Jan-Mar av.	237	167	183	291
Apr-Jun av.	254	172	199	315
Percentage increase	7	3	8	8

[1] Durable good shops, department stores (including co-operative societies) and 'other instalment credit retailers'. [2] General stores (other than department stores) and general mail-order houses. [3] Excluding sales against checks issued by other organisations. [4] The monthly periods for retailers consists of four weeks except those marked [4] which are of five weeks. The period covered by June 1978 sales was the five weeks from 28 May 1978 to 1 July 1978. The corresponding period in 1977 was from 29 May 1977 to 2 July 1977.

What is Financial Statistics?

Financial Statistics is a monthly publication by the Central Statistical Office and the source of many figures used in articles by financial journalists and in stockbrokers' circulars. It brings together the key financial and monetary statistics of the United Kingdom.

Financial Statistics is the prime source of UK detailed quarterly *financial accounts*. These include all recorded financial flows between sectors of the economy and bring a sense of proportion to the statistics of the different types of financial institutions and the various savings media.

Financial Statistics contains *up-to-date information* on government accounts, public sector borrowing requirement, money stock, domestic credit expansion, company liquidity, interest rates and security prices.

An **Explanatory Handbook for Financial Statistics** is also available. It contains notes and definitions which add to the understanding of all the tables, and explains the relationship between them. The handbook is included in the annual subscription charge or can be obtained separately (£1.35 net).

Price £3.20 (by post £3.52). Annual subscription £43.81 including postage. From HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies: second quarter

Expenditure on acquisitions of industrial and commercial companies rose in the second quarter of 1978 to its highest level since late-1973, though the number of companies acquired was much the same as in the first quarter.

As reported in the financial press, 133 companies were acquired for a total of £300 million in the second quarter of 1978, compared with 138 companies acquired for £231 million in the previous quarter. Table 1 and the chart show that the figures for the latest quarter continue the general gradual rise in acquisition activity since about early-1976.

The largest acquisition during the second quarter was that of Harrisons Malaysian Estates, 80 per cent of which was acquired by Harrisons and Crosfield for an amount provisionally estimated at £95.2 million. There were four other acquisitions for amounts over £10 million: Pork Farms acquired by Northern Foods for £23.4 million, James Shipstone and Sons acquired by Greenall Whitley and Co for £19.4 million, J. and L. Randall acquired by Letraset International for £12 million, and 51.9 per cent of Carlton Industries, a subsidiary of London Merchant Securities, acquired by Hawker Siddeley Group for £22.9 million. This last acquisition made a substantial contribution to the total expenditure on acquisitions of subsidiary companies during the quarter, which rose to its highest level since the second quarter of 1976.

Table 2 shows that, as usual, the great majority of acquisitions in the second quarter were for relatively small amounts. The 21 largest acquisitions (16 per cent of the total number) accounted for 80 per cent of the total expenditure in the quarter, while the remaining 112 acquisitions (84 per cent of the total number), which were each acquired for £2 million or less, accounted for only 20 per cent of the total expenditure. There was a marked

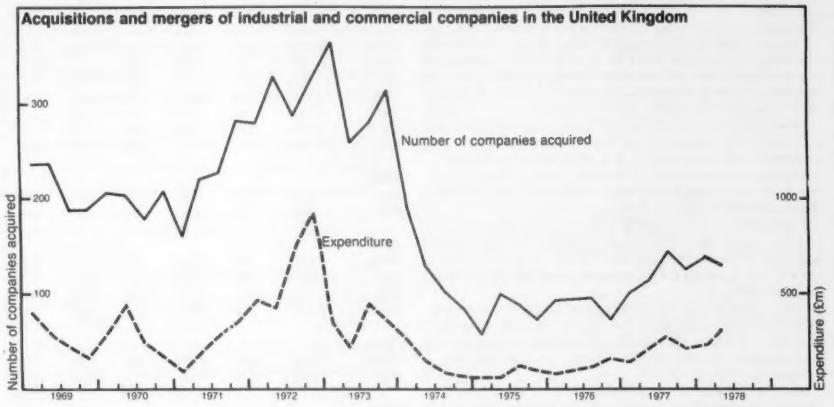

Table 1 Acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Total all acquisitions and mergers [1]			Acquisitions of independent companies and mergers: Total			Acquisitions of independent companies			Mergers [2]			Sales of subsidiaries between company groups		
	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £m
1969	686	846	1 068.9	595	744	969.2	593	742	961.6	2	2	7.6	91	102	99.7
1970	629	793	1 122.5	490	614	996.6	484	608	954.1	6	6	42.5	139	179	125.9
1971	687	884	911.1	498	620	745.6	498	620	745.6	—	—	—	189	264	165.5
1972	928	1 210	2 531.6	716	938	2 346.2	710	931	2 336.9	6	7	9.3	212	272	185.4
1973	929	1 205	1 304.3	724	951	1 057.5	722	949	1 055.2	2	2	2.3	205	254	246.8
1974	427	504	508.4	307	367	459.1	306	366	451.6	1	1	7.5	120	137	49.3
1975	276	315	290.8	180	200	221.0	177	197	215.1	3	3	5.9	96	115	69.8
1976	315	353	448.1	218	242	348.4	217	241	348.0	1	1	0.4	97	111	99.7
1977	429	483	814.8	334	373	719.3	332	371	689.7	2	2	29.6	95	110	95.5
1975															
1st qtr	50	56	47.1	35	37	38.4	34	36	36.9	1	1	1.5	15	19	8.7
2nd	82	99	50.8	52	62	38.0	51	61	37.4	1	1	0.6	30	37	12.8
3rd	81	88	111.9	50	55	77.5	50	55	77.5	—	—	—	31	33	34.4
4th	63	72	81.0	43	46	67.1	42	45	63.3	1	1	3.8	20	26	13.9
1976															
1st qtr	82	93	71.3	62	71	65.3	61	70	64.9	1	1	0.4	20	22	6.0
2nd	81	93	93.3	49	55	44.3	49	55	44.3	—	—	—	32	38	49.0
3rd	86	95	117.4	55	60	85.6	55	60	85.6	—	—	—	31	35	31.8
4th	66	72	166.1	52	56	153.2	52	56	153.2	—	—	—	14	16	12.9
1977															
1st qtr	93	101	131.7	78	86	122.7	78	86	122.7	—	—	—	15	15	9.0
2nd	100	112	202.4	76	84	166.3	76	84	166.3	—	—	—	24	28	36.1
3rd	124	144	273.5	95	109	241.5	93	107	211.9	2	2	29.6	29	35	32.0
4th	112	126	207.2	85	94	188.8	85	94	188.8	—	—	—	27	32	18.4
1978															
1st qtr	114	138	231.1	93	107	195.2	93	107	195.2	—	—	—	24	31	35.9
2nd	117	133	300.4	88	100	258.1	88	100	258.1	—	—	—	30	33	42.3

[1] The number of acquiring companies may be less than the sum of the components because some companies acquire both independent and subsidiary companies. [2] A merger (which takes place when two companies combine to form a new company) is reckoned as the acquisition of the smaller company by the larger and is valued at the market value of the smaller company's share of the newly formed company.

Table 2 Size distribution of acquisitions within the United Kingdom

	1977		1977 2nd quarter		1977 3rd quarter		1977 4th quarter		1978 1st quarter		1978 2nd quarter	
Expenditure £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquired	Value £ million
Over 25	2	60.9	—	—	1	29.5	—	—	1	53.0	1	95.2
Over 5 and up to 25	36	438.2	11	125.2	12	161.4	9	111.7	10	85.1	9	112.9
Over 2 and up to 5	39	127.9	11	38.1	7	20.8	13	41.3	12	38.0	11	33.6
2 or less	406	187.8	90	39.1	124	61.8	104	54.2	115	55.0	112	58.7
Total	483	814.8	112	202.4	144	273.5	126	207.2	138	231.1	133	300.4

rise in the average cost of acquisitions during the quarter to £2.3 million, compared with £1.7 million in the first quarter and £1.6 million in the fourth quarter of 1977.

Table 3 shows that the percentage of total expenditure in the form of ordinary shares rose sharply in the second quarter of 1978, following a rise in the previous quarter, and that the percentage in the form of cash fell sharply. The percentage in the form of fixed interest securities remained very low. The percentage of total expenditure accounted for by each of these three methods of payment tends to vary considerably from quarter to quarter, but this is the first time since the fourth quarter of 1975 that the percentage in the form of ordinary shares has exceeded the percentage in the form of cash.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 are taken from a more detailed analysis published in Business Monitor M7, 'Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies' (obtainable from HMSO each quarter for an annual subscription of £1.56). The Business Monitor also includes tables analysing acquisitions and mergers by industry.

Table 3 Categories of expenditure on acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Expenditure (£ million)				Percentage of expenditure		
	Total	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities
1969	1 069	296	552	221	27.7	51.6	20.7
1970	1 122	251	596	275	22.4	53.1	24.5
1971	911	285	437	189	31.3	48.0	20.7
1972	2 532	493	1 459	580	19.5	57.6	22.9
1973	1 304	691	466	147	53.0	35.7	11.3
1974	508	347	114	47	68.3	22.4	9.3
1975	291	173	93	25	59.4	32.0	8.6
1976	448	321	120	7	71.7	26.8	1.5
1977	815	506	301	8	62.1	36.9	1.0
1975							
1st qtr	47.1	38.7	7.1	1.3	82.2	15.0	2.8
2nd	50.8	33.5	17.3	—	65.9	34.1	—
3rd	111.9	64.4	24.0	23.5	57.6	21.4	21.0
4th	81.0	36.2	44.6	0.2	44.7	55.1	0.2
1976							
1st qtr	71.3	37.9	32.6	0.8	53.2	45.7	1.1
2nd	93.3	83.1	9.5	0.7	89.1	10.2	0.7
3rd	117.4	88.4	28.5	0.5	75.3	24.3	0.4
4th	166.1	111.4	49.8	4.9	67.1	30.0	2.9
1977							
1st qtr	131.7	91.4	40.2	0.1	69.4	30.5	0.1
2nd	202.4	113.7	84.6	4.1	56.2	41.8	2.0
3rd	273.5	149.5	120.8	3.2	54.7	44.1	1.2
4th	207.2	150.9	55.4	0.9	72.8	26.8	0.4
1978							
1st qtr	231.1	139.1	85.1	6.9	60.2	36.8	3.0
2nd	300.4	132.9	167.0	0.5	44.2	55.6	0.2

Notes

This analysis relates only to industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom and is based on reports in the financial press supplemented by special inquiries to companies to determine the form, value and timing of particular acquisitions. The Bank of England compiles an analysis of acquisitions and mergers relating to financial companies (banks, insurance companies, etc) which is published in the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*.

No method of valuing acquisitions is altogether free from objection. The values shown here relate in general to expenditure during the current period, excluding any previous investments in the company acquired. Where possible, the values are market values, ie the cash paid or the market price at date of issue of shares or loan stock issued. Where market values are not available (as in the case of unlisted securities) or the cash payment is not disclosed, acquisitions are in general valued at the net book value of the acquired company. When comparing the series over time one must allow for the considerable short-term fluctuations in share prices, in addition to allowing for the general inflation of values.

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another United Kingdom company, the transaction is classified as a sale between company groups. Acquisitions between subsidiaries of the same company group, in the course of internal reorganisation, have been ignored.

As far as possible, acquisitions are recorded at the date when the transaction is finalised (eg when a bid is declared unconditional). This date usually comes before the date on which the shares in the acquired company are surrendered, although it may be considerably later than the date when the bid is first announced in the press. Revisions to the data may occur from time to time if there are acquisitions and mergers which come to light after the publication of the article.

Inquiries: Economics and Statistics Division 6a, Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Room 248, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5538.

Health and safety: new quarterly statistics

In the first three months of this year, 126 deaths at work and 82 670 injuries were notified to the Health and Safety Executive. These provisional figures are continained in the first of a new series of quarterly statistical bulletins.

The bulletin shows that, during the same period, 16 cases of industrial diseases, one fatal, were notified to the executive. The executive's inspectors and other enforcement agencies served 3621 enforcement notices and conducted 383 prosecutions.

This new series of bulletins has been designed to make the provision of statistical information on health and safety at work matters more frequent and more up to date than has hitherto been possible on a broad basis. While the current figures are provisional, those provided in the past have been available in final form only annually.

The first table lists accidents which have resulted in absence from work of more than three days, except in the mining and quarrying industries, where this only applies to coal mines. In other mines, and in quarries, only accidents which were fatal or serious are included.

The figures in table 1 include for the first time accidents involving 'new entrants' – the 7 to 8 million people who were first covered by safety legislation with the passage of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Over 3500 of total accidents involved new entrants, but it is not known how representative this figure is as, under the act, employers do not have a statutory duty to report such accidents.

The figures are taken from returns by the inspectorates of factories, explosives, mines and quarries, agriculture, railways, nuclear installations, and alkali and clean air, and from 423 of the 461 local authorities. Industrial breakdowns were not available for the 4258 accidents notified to local authorities, and these have not been allocated to specific industries.

It is planned that the next quarterly statement, covering April to June inclusive, will be released in the autumn.

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Table 1 Number of accidents notified to the Health and Safety Executive by industry, first quarter 1978

Standard industrial classification order		Fatal accidents	Total accidents incl. fatal
I	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	8	1 257
II	Mining and quarrying	22	12 468
III	Food, drink and tobacco	4	6 087
IV	Coal and petroleum products	—	424
V	Chemical and allied industries	3	2 730
VI	Metal manufacture	13	5 849
VII	Mechanical engineering	3	5 975
VIII	Instrument engineering	—	346
IX	Electrical engineering	2	2 768
X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	1	1 893
XI	Vehicles	5	4 404
XII	Metal goods, not elsewhere specified	3	3 829
XIII	Textiles	2	2 953
XIV	Leather, leather goods and fur	1	195
XV	Clothing and footwear	—	731
XVI	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement etc	2	2 419
XVII	Timber, furniture etc	4	1 574
XVIII	Paper, printing and publishing	2	2 267
XIX	Other manufacturing industries	—	1 904
XX	Construction	26	7 881
XXI	Gas, electricity and water	1	1 001
XXII	Transport and communications	11	2 132
XVIII	Distributive trades	2	1 078
XXIV	Insurance, banking, finance and business services	—	14
XXV	Professional and scientific services	1	440
XXVI	Miscellaneous services	7	1 906
XXVII	Public administration and defence	—	1 454
	SIC not allocated	3	6 817
	Total all accidents	126	82 796

[1] Includes 4 258 accidents notified to local authorities.

Table 2 Enforcement notices, by type, issued in the first quarter 1978

Improvement	2 806
Deferred prohibition	128
Immediate prohibition	687
Total	3 621

Regional development grants: £94.5m paid out in second quarter

Regional development grants paid out in the quarter ended 30 June 1978 totalled £94.5 million.

The list shows companies which have received one or more payments of regional development grant of over £25,000 in the quarter. The total of these payments is £61.6 million. The table is drawn up on a regional basis according to the location of the premises in question and does not take account of any repayments of grant by deduction or otherwise.

Inquiries: 01-211 4756.

Applicant	Location of premises	Grant (£'000)
Scotland		
Abbey Chemicals Ltd	Livingston	68
Air Products Ltd	Cumbernauld	50
Alexander Hall and Son (Builders) Ltd	'S'	36
Alex Smith Metals Ltd	Ayr	36
Alginate Industries Ltd	Girvan	33
Anca (UK) Ltd	Stevenston	152
Anderson Mavor Ltd	Motherwell	62
Anderson Strathclyde Ltd	Motherwell	41
Arbrook Products Ltd	Livingston	54
Babcock and Wilcox (Operations) Ltd	Renfrew	34
Bacofoil Ltd	Glasgow	26
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd	Airdrie	27
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd	Grangemouth	249
Barry Henry and Cook Ltd	Aberdeen	43
Bass Ltd	Glasgow	167
BEPI (Electronics) Ltd	Galashiels	26
BP-California (Grangemouth) Ltd	Grangemouth	46
BP Oil Grangemouth Refinery Ltd	Grangemouth	95
Brightstone Southern Investments Ltd	Banff	40
British Leyland UK Ltd	Bathgate	378
British Leyland UK Ltd	Glasgow	1 077
British Rail Engineering Ltd	Glasgow	26
British Steel Corporation	Airdrie	69
British Steel Corporation	Cambuslang	171
British Steel Corporation	Garteosh	83
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell	1 712
British Steel Corporation	Wishaw	47
British Steel Corporation	'S'	64
Burtons Gold Medal Biscuits Ltd	Edinburgh	86
Caledonian Equipment Rentals Ltd	Tillicoultry	26
Caledonian Fish Meal Co (Aberdeen) Ltd	Aberdeen	161
Cameron Iron Works Ltd	Livingston	25
Caterpillar Tractor Co Ltd	Uddingston	465
Central Farmers Ltd	Fife	52
Chemetron Ltd	Glasgow	36
Christiani and Nielsen Ltd	'S'	34
Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd	Paisley	66
Clarke Chapman Ltd	Annan	67
Clyde Blowers Ltd	Clydebank	27
Clyde Bonding Co Ltd	Glasgow	40
Compugraphics International Ltd	Glenrothes	50
Conder Scotland Ltd	Cumbernauld	25
Consolidated Pneumatic Tool Co Ltd	Aberdeen	36
Costain Mining Ltd	Kinglassie	39
Crown Cork Co Ltd	Livingston	43
Cumbernauld Development Corporation	Cumbernauld	36
Daniel Industries Ltd	Larbert	51
Davidson Radcliffe Ltd	Aberdeen	52
D. C. Thomson and Co Ltd	Dundee	34
Devro Ltd	Bellshill	249
Digital Equipment Scotland Ltd	Ayr	41
Dow Brothers	'S'	35
Drambuie Liquer Ltd	Kirkliston	36
DRG (UK) Ltd	Tannochside	46
F. Miller (Textiles) Ltd	Glasgow	44
Francis Webster and Sons Ltd	Arbroath	27
General Electric Co Ltd	Kirkcaldy	41
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	Westhill	45
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd	Annan	213
Glaxo Properties Ltd	Annan	28
Grangemouth Dockyard Co Ltd	Grangemouth	32
HPB (By Products) Ltd	Fraserburgh	86
Howard Doris Ltd	'S'	71
Hugh Smith (Glasgow) Ltd	Glasgow	41
IBM United Kingdom Ltd	Greenock	230
IBM United Kingdom Rentals Ltd	Greenock	28
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Grangemouth	885
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Stevenston	179
Inverhouse Distillers Ltd	Airdrie	295
James Johnstone and Co of Elgin Ltd	Elgin	58
John Walker and Sons Ltd	Shieldhall	139
Laidlaw and Fairgrieve Ltd	Galashiels	31
Langholm Dyeing and Finishing Co Ltd	Langholm	36
Long John International Ltd	Glasgow	42
Martins (Dundyvan) Ltd	Coatbridge	316
Massey-Ferguson Perkins Ltd	Kilmarnock	40
Michelin Tyre Co Ltd	Dundee	45
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd	Alloa	44
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd	Glenrothes	26
Moray Firth Maltings Ltd	Inverness	33
Moray Firth Maltings Ltd	Turriff	69
Morrison and Gibb Ltd	Edinburgh	41
Motherwell Bridge Engineering Ltd	'S'	34
Motorola Ltd	East Kilbride	38
Nairn Floors Ltd	Kirkcaldy	337
National Coal Board	Auchinleck	173
National Coal Board	Ochiltree	171
National Semi-Conductor (UK) Ltd	Greenock	331
Nobel's Explosives Co Ltd	Stevenston	51
North British Distillery Co Ltd	Edinburgh	96
North Eastern Farmers Ltd	Aberdeen	37
Northern Tool and Gear Co Ltd	Arbroath	33
Philips Lighting Ltd	Hamilton	25
Road Seal Ltd	Aberdeen	45
Robert Hutchinson and Co Ltd	Kirkcaldy	31
Robert L. Fleming Ltd	Dundee	104
Rolls-Royce Ltd	Hillington	63
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd	Edinburgh	45
Royal Bank Leasing Ltd	Glasgow	89
Royal Bank Leasing Ltd	'S'	89
Royal Ordnance Factory	Bishopton	26
Sandusky Ltd	Glenrothes	28
Scottish Aggregates Ltd	Johnstone	42
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd	Aberlour	47
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd	Edinburgh	717
Scottish Stamping and Engineering Co Ltd	Ayr	113
Seamud Services Ltd	Aberdeen	95
Shell UK Ltd	Aberdeen	751
Singer Co (UK) Ltd	Clydebank	30
Shetland Aggregates Ltd	Shetland	49
Stephen Dalton	Gogar-Bank	38
Sunblest Bakeries (Glasgow) Ltd	Glasgow	104
Syntex Pharmaceuticals Ltd	Edinburgh	53
Thames Case Ltd	Cumbernauld	41
Tri-State Oil Tool (UK) Ltd	Aberdeen	44
UG Glass Containers Ltd	Alloa	56
United Wire Ltd	Edinburgh	68
Weir Pumps Ltd	Alloa	27
Wiggins Teape Ltd	Aberdeen	45
Wilkie and Paul Ltd	Edinburgh	96
William Collins Sons and Co Ltd	Bishopbriggs	115
William Donald & Son Ltd	Aberdeen	34
Wimet Ltd	Glasgow	37
Yarrow (Shipbuilders) Ltd	Scotstoun	95
		14,478
Wales		
AB Electronics Components Ltd	Abercynon	58
Air Products Ltd	Shotton	67
Alcoa Manufacturing (GB) Ltd	Swansea	80
Aluminium Wire and Cable Co Ltd	Neath	91
BICC Ltd	Wrexham	55
BP Trading Ltd	Port Talbot	340
BRD Co Ltd	Newtown	32
British Airways Engine Overhaul Ltd	Nantgarw	88
British Steel Corporation	Ebbw Vale	360
British Steel Corporation	Llanelli	31
British Steel Corporation	Port Talbot	978
British Steel Corporation	Shotton	419
British Steel Corporation	Swansea	28
Brymbo Steel Works	Wrexham	811
Cambrian Castings Ltd	Aberdare	26
Country Produce Ltd	Hawarden	44
Courtaulds Ltd	Flint	36
Dennis Ruabon Ltd	Ruabon	38
Dow Corning Ltd	Barry	678
Duport Steels Ltd	Llanelli	642
ECC Quarries Ltd	Llantrisant	42
Erie Electronics Ltd	Wrexham	29
Esso Petroleum Co Ltd	Milford Haven	54
F. H. Lloyd and Co Ltd	Cardiff	26
Fibreglass Ltd	Croesyceiliog	163
GEC (Radio and Television) Ltd	Aberdare	124
General Paper and Box Manufacturing Co Ltd	Pontypridd	41
GKN (South Wales) Ltd	Cardiff	239
Gregor Brothers Ltd	Aberdare	73
Hotpoint Ltd	Llandudno Junction	34
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Pontypool	269
Imperial Metal Industries (Kynoch) Ltd	Swansea	33
Inco Europe Ltd	Swansea	405
JPM (Automatic Machines) Ltd	Cardiff	50
Kellogg Co of Gt Britain Ltd	Wrexham	106
Kronospan Ltd	Chirk	207
Milk Marketing Board	Lampeter	47
M. J. Gleeson (Contractors) Ltd	'S'	82
National Coal Board	Abersychan	107
National Coal Board	Afan-Tondu	77
National Coal Board	Crynant	59
National Coal Board	Cwm	38
National Coal Board	Glynneath	44
National Coal Board	Llantwit-Fadre	187
National Coal Board	Maesteg	34
National Coal Board	Merthyr Vale	119
National Coal Board	Nantgarw	109
National Coal Board	Neath	71
National Coal Board	Oakdale	132
National Coal Board	Pengam	27
National Coal Board	Pontardawe	112
National Coal Board	Pontyates	33
National Coal Board	Rhostyllen	172
National Coal Board	Swansea	32
National Coal Board	Treharris	62
National Coal Board	Ynysbwl	122
Nipa Laboratories Ltd	Pontypridd	26
Peace Transfers Ltd	Bangor	56
Pembroke Cracking Co	Pembroke	191
Perkin-Elmer Ltd	Pontyclun	31
RHM Bakeries (Midlands) Ltd	Taffs Well	105
Royal Ordnance Factory	Usk	26
Sekisui (UK) Ltd	Merthyr Tydfil	26
Spillers Agriculture Ltd	Cardiff	28
South Wales Switchgear Ltd	Blackwood	29
Swansea Press Ltd	Swansea	37
Welsh Aggregates Ltd	Nercwys	25
Wiggins Teape Ltd	Pontypridd	52
3M (United Kingdom) Ltd	Swansea	54
Total		9 149
Northern		
Albright and Wilson Ltd	Whitehaven	151
Allen-Bradley Electronics Ltd	Jarrow	31
Anzon Ltd	Wallsend	111
Associated Lead Manufacturers Ltd	Newcastle	116
Austin and Pickersgill Ltd	Sunderland	130
Bakelite Xylonite Ltd	Haltwhistle	31
Baring Brothers and Co Ltd	Kendal	49
BOC Ltd	Middlesbrough	197
BP Trading Ltd	Middlesbrough	757
BP Trading Ltd	Wilton	83
British Chrome and Chemicals Ltd	Stockton	49
British Crane Hire Corporation Ltd	'S'	66
British Engines Ltd	Newcastle	34
British Gypsum Ltd	Carlisle	79
British Gypsum Ltd	Penrith	139
British Industrial Plastics Ltd	Darlington	636
British Industrial Plastics Ltd	Darlington	158
British Rail Engineering Ltd	Shildon	58
British Steel Corporation	Consett	148
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough	1 506
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	1 006
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	101
British Steel Corporation	Workington	85
British Steel Corporation (Chemicals) Ltd	Middlesbrough	315
BTP Tioxide Ltd	Hartlepool	1 462
Carreras Rothmans Ltd	Darlington	164
Caterpillar Tractor Co Ltd	Birtley	94
Commercial Plastics Ltd	Cramlington	117
Corning Ltd	Sunderland	314
Cummins Engine Co Ltd	Darlington	101
Darlington and Simpson Rolling Mills Ltd	Darlington	39
Davy Roll Co Ltd	Gateshead	39
Durham Chemicals Ltd	Birtley	29
Edenhall Concrete Products Ltd	Bishop Auckland	36
EIMCO (Great Britain) Ltd	Gateshead	117
Fairclough Construction Services Ltd	'S'	48
Forward Leasing (UK) Ltd	Middlesbrough	33
George Blair and Co Ltd	Tow Law	28
George Cohen Sons and Co Ltd	Middlesbrough	27
Gibbons Northern Brick Ltd	Throckley	38
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd	Ulverston	170
Glaxo Properties Ltd	Barnard Castle	36
Harker and Sons (Engineers) Ltd	Stockton	67
Hepworth and Grandage Ltd	Sunderland	70
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Billingham	1 513

Applicant	Location of premises	Grant (£'000)
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Middlesbrough	1 572
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Middlesbrough	1 800
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Port Clarence, Middlesbrough	174
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Wilton	74
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Wilton, Middlesbrough	497
John Livinston (Estates) Ltd	Middlesbrough	33
Liner Concrete Machinery Co Ltd	Gateshead	29
Liner Concrete Machinery Co Ltd	Gateshead	41
Lombard North Central Leasing Ltd	Billingham	61
Lombard North Central Leasing Ltd	Eaglescliffe	45
Monsanto Ltd	Middlesbrough	1 152
Mullard Ltd	Durham	124
National Coal Board	Alnwick	44
National Coal Board	Ashington	28
National Coal Board	Dawdon	36
National Coal Board	Ellington	28
National Coal Board	Hetton le Hole	114
National Coal Board	Horden	353
National Coal Board	Horden/Blackhall	63
National Coal Board	Lynemouth	37
National Coal Board	Morpeth	51
National Coal Board	Morpeth	63
National Coal Board	Newcastle	34
National Coal Board	Peterlee	78
National Coal Board	Seaham	127
National Coal Board	Westhoe	49
National Coal Board	Whitehaven	434
Newalls Insulation Co Ltd	Washington	132
Norpipe Petroleum UK Ltd	Billingham	1 174
Norsea Pipeline Ltd	Billingham	3 843
Northern Clubs Federation Brewery Ltd	Gateshead	229
Northern Engineering Industries Ltd	Newcastle	41
Norwich Union Insurance Group (Equipment Leasing) Ltd	Newcastle/Tyne	177
Owen Pugh and Co Ltd	'S'	35
Patons and Baldwins Ltd	Darlington	40
Pearson Machine Tool Co Ltd	Newcastle	27
Peiner Aliscott Ltd	'S'	46
Pirelli Ltd	Carlisle	38
Polyamide Intermediates Ltd	Middlesbrough	647
Polychrome (Berwick)	Berwick upon Tweed	109
Randolph Coke and Chemical Co Ltd	Bishop Auckland	25
Reed Corrugated Cases Ltd	Hartlepool	39
Ringtons Ltd	Newcastle	26
Rohm and Haas (UK) Ltd	Middlesbrough	48
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd	Newcastle	229
Seymour Plant (Northern) Ltd	Seascale	27
Smith Brothers (Whitehaven) Ltd	Workington	26
Sterling Winthrop Group Ltd	Newcastle/Tyne	40
Thames Board Mills Ltd	Workington	243
Thorn Heating Ltd	Birtley	40
Thorn Heating Ltd	Gateshead	51
Timex Corporation	Washington	102
T. Kilroe and Sons Ltd	'S'	26
United Biscuits Ltd	Carlisle	31
United Biscuits (UK) Ltd	Billingham	75
Vald Birn (UK) Ltd	Blyth	37
Vaux Breweries Ltd	Sunderland	50
Vickers Ltd	Newcastle	91
Vickers Shipbuilding Group Ltd	Barrow-in-Furness	50
Wavin Plastics Ltd	Brandon	59
Welham Plant Ltd	'S'	44
Welwyn Electric Ltd	Bedlington	26
Wilsons Foundry and Eng Co Ltd	Bishop Auckland	40
W. R. Grace Ltd	Middlesbrough	81
WSC Machinery Service (UK) Ltd	Hartlepool	34
Total		25 797
Yorkshire and Humberside		
Albright and Wilson Ltd	Barton on Humber	69
Associated Dairies Ltd	Wakefield	62
British Steel Corporation	Rotherham	80
British Steel Corporation	Scunthorpe	176
British Steel Corporation	Sheffield	298
British Sugar Corporation Ltd	York	31
BTP Tioxide Ltd	Grimsby	28
Canning Town Glass Ltd	Mexborough	41
Capper Pass Ltd	North Ferriby	254
Carpets International (Northern) Ltd	Northallerton	68
Catton and Co Ltd	Leeds	38
Celcon Ltd	Pollington	40
Crosby Kitchens Ltd	Sheffield	37
David Brown Tractors Ltd	Huddersfield	71
E. Green and Son Ltd	Wakefield	34
Grant Lyon Eagre Ltd	Scunthorpe	26
Hargreaves Quarries Ltd	Kirbymoorside	32
Harlow Chemical Co Ltd	Grimsby	93
Hickson and Welch Ltd	Castleford	98
International Sports Co Ltd	Wakefield	60
J. Lawson and Co Ltd	Hull	31
Laporte Industries Ltd	Grimsby	74
Lombard Discount Ltd	Cleethorpes	54
Northern Dairies Creameries Ltd	Northallerton	190
Nypro (UK) Ltd	Scunthorpe	189
Procor (UK) Ltd	Wakefield	26
Prosper de Mulder Ltd	Doncaster	28
Redfearn National Glass Ltd	Barnsley	153
Royal Ordnance Factory	Leeds	38
S. R. Gent and Co Ltd	Bradford	30
Stelrad Group Ltd	Hull	55
United Biscuits Ltd	Grimsby	30
W. H. Baxter Ltd and Bramley Engineering Co Ltd	Leeds	35
Whitbread East Pennines Ltd	Leeds	47
Wold Farm Foods Ltd	Grimsby	78
Total		2 694
East Midlands		
Dowding and Mills (Midlands) Ltd	Sutton in Ashfield	42
Meritina Ltd	Huthwaite	202
Total		244
South West		
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co Ltd	Lee Moor	32
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co Ltd	St Austell	576
Geevor Tin Mines Ltd	Penzance	25
J. and F. Pool Ltd	Hayle	39
Pall Europe Ltd	Ilfracombe	80
St Modwen Securities Ltd	Plymouth	150
Western Excavating (ECC) Ltd	St Austell	29
Total		931
North West		
Acrow Ltd	Stockport	155
Alex J. Clarke Ltd	Warrington	41
Angust Fire Armour Ltd	Morecambe	127
Associated Biscuits Ltd	Liverpool	31
Associated Octel Co (Plant) Ltd	Ellesmere Port	103
BAT (UK and Export) Ltd	Liverpool	44
BICC Ltd	Helsby, Warrington	62
BICC Ltd	Prescot	246
BOC Ltd	Bromborough	35
Bosal (UK) Ltd	Preston	30
Braby Group Ltd	Liverpool	36
British Leyland (UK) Ltd	Leyland	338
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd	Capenhurst	245
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd	Preston	67
British Rail Engineering Ltd	Crewe	28
British Sidac Ltd	St Helens	57
Cadbury Schweppes Foods Ltd	Wallasey	272
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd	Birkenhead	167
Carrington Viyella Properties Ltd	Manchester	35
CC Spice International Ltd	Runcorn	39
Chloride Industrial Batteries Ltd	Bolton	69
Chloride Technical Ltd	Manchester	35
Clayton Analine Co Ltd	Manchester	122
Commonwealth Curtain Co Ltd	Liverpool	28
Courtaulds Ltd	Liverpool	64
CPC (United Kingdom) Ltd	Manchester	82
Cross International AG	Liverpool	55
Curver PCM Ltd	Runcorn	62
David Brown Tractors Ltd	Leigh	30
Dytex International Chemicals Ltd	Bromborough	38
Electric Power Storage Ltd	Bolton	45
Ellis Jones and Co (Stockport) Ltd	Stockport	41
Eric Bemrose Ltd	Liverpool	35
Fibreglass Ltd	St Helens	243
Fisons Ltd	Holmes Chapel	39
Fisons Ltd	Widnes	29
Geo L. Scott and Co Ltd	Ellesmere Port	42
Girling Ltd	Bromborough	154
Guinness Exports Ltd	Liverpool	37
Hercules Powder Co Ltd	Liverpool	41
H. H. Robertson (UK) Ltd	Ellesmere Port	34
Hygena Ltd	Liverpool	42
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Runcorn	874
Imperial Chemical Industries	Thornton, Blackpool	51
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Widnes	177
Janstorp International (UK) Ltd	St Helens	47
Kelvinator Ltd	Bromborough	27
Keyes Huntsman Ltd	Skelmersdale	112
Lever Brothers Ltd	Port Sunlight	50
Lever Brothers Ltd	Warrington	94
Lilly Industries Ltd	Liverpool	48
Liverpool Web Offset Ltd	Liverpool	47
Lombard North Central Leasing Ltd	Ince, Chester	99
Nacanco Ltd	Skelmersdale	109
National Coal Board	St Helens	211
North East Lancashire Co-operative Dairies Association Ltd	Oswaldtwistle	34
Odex Racasan Ltd	Ellesmere Port	190
Pilkington Brothers Ltd	St Helens	160
Plessey Telecommunications Ltd	Liverpool	110
Ravenshead Co Ltd	St Helens	188
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd	Runcorn	29
Shell UK Ltd	Ellesmere Port	170
Synthetic Resins Ltd	Liverpool	90
Talres Development Ltd	Liverpool	266
Thomas Scott and Sons (Bakers) Ltd	Liverpool	293
Tom Martin and Co Ltd	Blackburn	165
UG Glass Containers Ltd	St Helens	42
UML Ltd	Port Sunlight	61
Unichema Chemicals Ltd	Bebington	116
Vauxhall Motors Ltd	Ellesmere Port	731
Viota Foods Ltd	Bromborough	27
Ward Blenkinsop and Co Ltd	Widnes	68
Widnes Scrap Metal Co Ltd	Widnes	35
William Blythe and Co Ltd	Accrington	28
Total		8 274

Notes

1 'S' indicates use in more than one premises or sites in a development area.

2 Information about the publication of earlier lists appeared in *Trade and Industry*, 19 May 1978.

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The following titles and issues of Business Monitors are now available:

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Quarterly at £1.56 each per year post free:

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PQ 272 Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations for first quarter 1978

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PQ 339.7 Food and drink processing machinery and packaging and bottling machinery for first quarter 1978

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PQ 362 Insulated wires and cables for first quarter 1978

PQ 363 Telegraph and telephone apparatus and equipment for fourth quarter 1977

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PQ 399.2 Metal windows and door frames for first quarter 1978

PQ 399.3 Safes, locks, latches, keys and springs for first quarter 1978

PQ 399.8 Needles, pins, fish-hooks and other metal smallwares for first quarter 1978

PQ 419 Carpets for first quarter 1978

PQ 461.1 Refractory goods for first quarter 1978

PQ 464 Cement for first quarter 1978

PQ 471 Timber (sawmilling, etc and builders' woodwork) for first quarter 1978

PQ 472 Wooden furniture and upholstery for first quarter 1978

PQ 473 Bedding and soft furnishings for first quarter 1978

PQ 492 Plastics floor-coverings, leathercloth, etc for first quarter 1978

PQ 494.3 Sports equipment for first quarter 1978

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1977 Report on the Census of Production (Price including postage shown in brackets)

PA 218 Fruit and vegetable products (85p)

PA 261 Coke ovens and manufactured fuel (85p)

PA 279.1 Polishes (85p)

PA 335 Textile machinery and accessories (85p)

PA 433 Fur (85p)

PA 462 Pottery (85p)

PA 471 Timber (85p)

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Steel consumption and stocks: first quarter

Two series of figures are shown for the results of the first quarter 1978. The figures at (a) have been compiled in the same way as those previously published and the figures at (b) have been calculated following a change in the methodology designed to improve the estimates. In table 4 details of deliveries, consumption and stocks for a wider range of products are produced for the first time.

Consumption – revised (b)

Consumption of finished steel in the first quarter is estimated to be 4.20 m tonnes seasonally adjusted.

Receipts – revised (b)

Deliveries from UK producers to consumers and stockholders were estimated to be 3.20 million tonnes and imports 0.83 million tonnes; stockholders stocks rose slightly. Total receipts by consumers were 4.05 million tonnes.

continued on next page

Table 1 Consumption, deliveries and stocks of finished steel

Seasonally adjusted

Period	Consumption million tonnes	Deliveries million tonnes: From UK production to consumers and stockholders	Deliveries million tonnes: Imports	Deliveries million tonnes: Total to consumers[1]	Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Consumers	Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Stockholders	Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Total	Number of weeks use held in stock by consumers and stockholders[2]
1970	17.64	17.30	1.04	17.91	4.15	0.87	5.02	14.4
1971	16.72	14.50	1.41	16.07	3.47	0.71	4.18	13.8
1972	16.75	14.59	2.14	16.72	3.44	0.72	4.16	11.6
1973	18.45	16.80	2.51	19.45	4.44	0.58	5.02	15.0
1974	17.58	15.07	3.29	18.07	4.96	0.87	5.83	17.7
1975	15.45	12.03	3.03	15.01	4.53	0.92	5.45	17.4
1976	15.80	12.66	3.15	15.65	4.37	1.08	5.45	17.5
1977	15.30	11.95	2.97	15.01	4.15	0.96	5.11	17.4
1976								
1st qtr	4.07	3.05	0.84	3.91	4.37	0.90	5.27	17.6
2nd	3.89	3.18	0.72	3.86	4.35	0.94	5.29	18.1
3rd	3.78	3.24	0.70	3.83	4.39	1.05	5.44	17.4
4th	4.06	3.19	0.89	4.05	4.37	1.08	5.45	17.5
1977								
1st qtr	3.74	2.99	0.59	3.59	4.29	1.04	5.33	18.5
2nd	3.76	2.90	0.64	3.61	4.14	0.97	5.11	17.2
3rd	3.97	3.16	0.88	4.02	4.19	0.99	5.18	17.3
4th	3.83	2.90	0.86	3.79	4.15	0.96	5.11	17.4

1978	Consumption million tonnes		Deliveries million tonnes: From UK production to consumers and stockholders		Deliveries million tonnes: Imports	Deliveries million tonnes: Total to consumers[1]		Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Consumers		Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Stockholders		Stocks at end of period million tonnes: Total		Number of weeks use held in stock by consumers and stockholders[2]	
	a	b	a	b		a	b	a	b			a	b	a	b
1st qtr	4.18	4.20	3.19	3.20	0.83	4.04	4.05	4.01	4.00	0.98		4.99	4.98	15.9	15.9

[1] Total deliveries to consumers are deliveries from UK production to consumers and stockholders plus imports minus stock build by stockholders. [2] Calculated as stocks divided by weekly consumption in the following quarter, with the exception of the latest quarter when the divisor is weekly consumption in that quarter.

Table 2 Consumption of finished steel by industry group

Seasonally adjusted. Million tonnes

Period	Railways	Shipbuilding	Construction	Electrical engineering	Mechanical engineering	Motors	Holloware	Wire and wire manufactures	Other consuming industries
1970	0.40	0.68	2.86	0.77	3.83	2.32	1.12	1.25	4.41
1971	0.37	0.69	3.13	0.74	3.06	2.30	1.23	1.12	4.08
1972	0.37	0.72	2.99	0.76	3.18	2.21	1.23	1.14	4.15
1973	0.37	0.65	3.35	0.87	3.73	2.43	1.35	1.23	4.47
1974	0.48	0.58	3.08	1.07	3.54	2.13	1.33	1.12	4.25
1975	0.54	0.66	2.53	0.84	3.29	1.65	1.09	0.96	3.89
1976	0.45	0.56	2.51	0.82	3.33	1.86	1.27	1.03	3.97
1977	0.36	0.41	2.05	0.67	3.80	1.86	1.28	0.89	3.98
1976									
1st qtr	0.12	0.18	0.74	0.22	0.81	0.44	0.30	0.25	1.01
2nd	0.13	0.14	0.64	0.22	0.81	0.46	0.30	0.24	0.95
3rd	0.10	0.12	0.61	0.21	0.78	0.48	0.30	0.24	0.94
4th	0.10	0.12	0.52	0.17	0.93	0.48	0.37	0.30	1.07
1977									
1st qtr	0.09	0.10	0.53	0.17	0.86	0.47	0.33	0.23	0.96
2nd	0.08	0.12	0.51	0.16	0.93	0.43	0.32	0.23	0.98
3rd	0.09	0.09	0.50	0.18	1.02	0.48	0.34	0.21	1.06
4th	0.10	0.10	0.51	0.16	0.99	0.48	0.29	0.22	0.98

1978	Railways		Shipbuilding		Construction		Electrical engineering		Mechanical engineering		Motors		Holloware		Wire and wire manufactures		Other consuming industries	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
1st qtr	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.14	0.54	0.55	0.21	0.24	1.11	1.07	0.51	0.63	0.33	0.32	0.22	0.25	1.06	0.90

Table 3 Stocks of finished steel by industry group

Seasonally adjusted. Million tonnes

Period	Railways	Shipbuilding	Construction	Electrical engineering	Mechanical engineering	Motors	Holloware	Wire and wire manufactures	Other consuming industries
1970	0.12	0.29	1.06	0.14	0.93	0.46	0.16	0.14	0.85
1971	0.11	0.25	0.84	0.10	0.78	0.37	0.14	0.13	0.75
1972	0.08	0.27	0.83	0.10	0.80	0.38	0.14	0.12	0.72
1973	0.09	0.34	1.11	0.15	0.92	0.50	0.19	0.14	1.00
1974	0.14	0.45	1.22	0.17	1.05	0.46	0.20	0.15	1.12
1975	0.16	0.51	1.14	0.13	0.90	0.39	0.14	0.15	1.01
1976	0.12	0.39	1.00	0.13	0.92	0.47	0.17	0.13	1.04
1977	0.12	0.31	1.01	0.12	0.85	0.44	0.19	0.13	0.98
1976									
1st qtr	0.17	0.46	1.05	0.13	0.89	0.39	0.14	0.15	0.99
2nd	0.15	0.42	1.06	0.12	0.86	0.41	0.16	0.16	1.01
3rd	0.13	0.40	1.01	0.12	0.91	0.45	0.18	0.16	1.03
4th	0.12	0.39	1.00	0.13	0.92	0.47	0.17	0.13	1.04
1977									
1st qtr	0.12	0.37	1.01	0.13	0.90	0.45	0.18	0.13	1.01
2nd	0.12	0.33	0.99	0.12	0.88	0.44	0.17	0.12	0.98
3rd	0.12	0.33	0.99	0.12	0.87	0.46	0.19	0.13	0.99
4th	0.12	0.31	1.01	0.12	0.85	0.44	0.19	0.13	0.98

1978	Railways		Shipbuilding		Construction		Electrical engineering		Mechanical engineering		Motors		Holloware		Wire and wire manufactures		Other consuming industries	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
1st qtr	0.11	0.25	0.30	0.47	1.01	0.46	0.11	0.08	0.82	1.15	0.42	0.46	0.17	0.21	0.13	0.17	0.94	0.75

Table 4 **Receipts, consumption and stocks of steel, steel type and selected industry groups quarter ending 1 April 1978**

Not seasonally adjusted. Thousand tonnes

Steel type/Industry group	Receipts	Consumption	Stocks at end quarter
Ingots blooms billets and slabs			
Mechanical engineering	66.9	71.8	85.1
All other industries	140.3	141.2	146.3
Total	207.2	213.0	231.4
Sections (including rails)			
Railways	64.1	58.6	65.5
Construction	205.6	238.1	116.4
Mechanical engineering	100.1	96.2	70.3
All other industries	139.9	141.9	162.9
Total	509.7	534.8	415.1
Rods and bars for reinforcement			
Construction	56.9	47.4	54.2
Mechanical engineering	200.9	186.5	139.7
All other industries	6.9	6.0	9.0
Total	264.7	239.9	202.9
Other rod and bar in coil			
Mechanical engineering	76.4	79.7	60.4
Wire and wire manufactures	242.6	241.6	80.8
All other industries	44.8	44.0	44.2
Total	363.8	365.3	185.4
Other rod and bar straight lengths hot rolled			
Motors	26.6	27.1	3.4
Mechanical engineering	61.6	70.3	151.7
Construction	19.9	19.9	27.1
All other industries	194.1	189.7	139.9
Total	302.2	307.0	322.1
Other rod and bar straight lengths cold finished			
Electrical engineering	13.2	12.4	9.0
Mechanical engineering	43.8	45.1	19.6
Motor vehicles	29.0	29.7	10.2
All other industries	55.9	60.0	14.4
Total	141.9	147.2	53.2
Strip hot rolled			
Mechanical engineering	11.1	15.1	19.9
Motor vehicles	43.0	42.2	33.8
All other industries	49.1	57.7	87.4
Total	103.2	115.0	141.1
Strip cold rolled			
Electrical engineering	15.6	16.2	24.3
Mechanical engineering	19.5	19.8	27.0
Motor vehicles	19.1	20.3	32.4
All other industries	63.2	57.6	98.2
Total	117.4	113.9	181.9
Sheet hot rolled			
Mechanical engineering	26.4	27.3	12.0
Motor vehicles	31.9	31.4	12.6
Holloware	8.8	11.4	5.8
All other industries	35.5	37.1	30.2
Total	102.6	107.2	60.6
Sheet cold reduced			
Electrical engineering	170.9	173.1	19.9
Mechanical engineering	127.3	132.5	58.6
Motor vehicles	315.9	314.2	193.9
Hollow-ware	83.3	86.7	53.8
All other industries	163.6	170.2	77.7
Total	861.0	876.7	403.9
Plate			
Shipbuilding	74.1	97.0	284.5
Construction	167.1	169.8	178.5
Mechanical engineering	231.0	243.6	158.3
Motor vehicles	80.6	89.0	74.2
All other industries	118.0	115.7	94.1
Total	670.8	715.1	789.6
Tinplate and black plate			
Hollow-ware	209.0	210.1	125.6
All other industries	36.0	40.4	32.2
Total	245.0	250.5	157.8
All other steel products			
Railways	21.8	20.1	124.2
Shipbuilding	5.3	7.9	24.4
Construction	34.7	31.3	42.2
Electrical engineering	10.5	8.9	14.4
Mechanical engineering	150.6	144.9	353.3
Motor vehicles	55.6	55.2	76.0
Hollow-ware	1.3	1.3	1.1
Wire and wire manufactures	18.8	19.4	54.7
All other industries	162.3	162.8	224.9
Total	460.9	451.8	915.2
Total all steel products			
Railways	85.9	78.7	189.7
Shipbuilding	79.4	104.9	308.9
Construction	484.2	506.5	394.7
Electrical engineering	210.2	210.6	67.6
Mechanical engineering	1 115.6	1 132.8	1 155.9
Motor vehicles	601.7	609.1	460.2
Hollow-ware	302.4	309.5	186.3
Wire and wire manufactures	261.4	261.0	135.5
All other industries	1 209.6	1 224.3	1 161.4
Total	4 350.4	4 437.4	4 060.2

Stocks – revised (b)

It is estimated that during the first quarter consumers stocks fell by 0.15 million tonnes, whilst stockholders stocks rose by 0.02 million tonnes bringing the total decrease in the combined stock held by consumers and stockholders to 0.13 million tonnes. The estimated number of weeks use held in stock by consumers and stockholders is 15.9 weeks.

Inquiries: 01-212 5994.

Table 5 **Receipts, deliveries and stocks of steel by stockholders**

Thousand tonnes

Product	Receipts	Deliveries	stocks at end quarter	Stock change
Beams, joists, angles and sections	155.8	152.0	163.3	3.8
Rounds and squares	73.1	69.1	52.9	4.0
Plate and wide coil	284.7	262.7	261.0	22.0
Sheet	295.4	293.2	263.1	2.2
Other steel	285.9	275.2	264.2	10.7
Total steel	1 094.9	1 052.2	1 004.5	42.7
Treaty of Paris products	906.6	868.3	805.8	37.7
Non-treaty products	188.9	183.9	198.7	5.0

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1977, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

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HMSO BOOKS

Index of industrial production for Wales: slight rise in first quarter

Industrial output in Wales measured by the index of industrial production is provisionally estimated to be 103.8 (1970 = 100) in the first quarter of 1978 – a rise of over 1 per cent compared with the previous quarter. The index for the United Kingdom as a whole rose by approximately the same percentage over the comparable period.

Output levels generally were little changed between the fourth quarter 1977 and the first quarter 1978. The only notable increases were in construction (7 per cent), food, drink and tobacco (6 per cent) and the utilities (5 per cent). Paper, printing and publishing registered the only significant fall (9 per cent).

Comparing the 1978 first quarter figures with those for the corresponding quarter of 1977, the indices for all industries and all manufacturing industries were lower in the later period (by 1 per cent and 4 per cent respectively). The largest factor contributing to this position was the 15 per cent fall recorded for metal manufacture. The falls measured for coal and petroleum products and chemicals (both 8 per cent) also had a significant influence. Over the year, the index for construction showed the greatest improvement (14 per cent), and the index for electrical engineering rose by 7 per cent.

On the market sector basis (table 2), output rose by 2 per cent over the quarter in the consumer goods sector; but only marginal increases were recorded for the other two sectors. Over the year, first quarter to first quarter, while output in the investment goods sector increased by 10 per cent, production in the important intermediate goods sector fell back by 7 per cent. Output in the consumer goods industries declined by 2 per cent over the year.

Inquiries: Cardiff (0222) 42661 ext. 26.

Table 1 Index of industrial production for Wales [1]

seasonally adjusted 1970 = 100

Market sector	1970 weights per thousand	Annual indices		Quarterly indices 1977				1978	Percentage change over previous	
		1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr p	Qtr	Year
Total: all industries	1 000	104.7	103.5	105.2	101.1	105.4	102.4	103.8	1	−1
Mining and quarrying	85	66	62	62	62	62	62	60	−3	−4
Total: all manufacturing industries	701	111.3	109.7	113.0	106.0	111.6	108.2	108.6	0	−4
Food, drink and tobacco	40	155	147	151	151	142	144	153	6	1
Coal and petroleum products	37	101	89	97	86	88	87	89	0	−8
Chemicals and allied industries	47	156	161	170	161	161	154	156	1	−8
Metal manufacture: total	199	83	75	82	70	78	70	70	0	−15
Ferrous	167	74	68	75	62	74	64	64	−1	−14
Non-ferrous	33	128	109	121	113	102	98	99	1	−18
Engineering and allied industries: total	222	119	123	122	119	126	125	125	0	2
Mechanical and instrument engineering	61	103	110	110	108	112	110	112	2	2
Electrical engineering	56	159	166	161	164	168	171	171	1	7
Vehicles (including aircraft and ships)	65	112	111	113	100	118	115	114	−1	1
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	39	96	100	102	100	99	98	98	0	−4
Textiles, leather and clothing	59	94	93	91	90	96	95	94	−1	2
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc	20	131	140	142	137	138	143	137	−4	−4
Timber, furniture etc	13	143	137	148	123	137	140	145	4	−2
Paper, printing and publishing	31	88	87	88	85	84	92	83	−9	−6
Other manufacturing industries	32	157	157	157	154	165	152	153	1	−2
Construction	146	78	78	74	78	80	79	84	7	14
Gas, electricity and water	68	142	147	146	149	150	145	152	5	5

[1] Revisions to the series (going back to the start of the previous year) are normally made each quarter to take account both of more recent information and improved seasonal adjustment factors. p Provisional.
Source: Welsh Office.

Table 1a United Kingdom – key components

Total: all industries	1 000	101.3	102.6	103.2	101.9	102.8	102.3	103.3	1	0
Mining and quarrying	37	89	104	102	104	105	103	108	5	6
Total: all manufacturing industries	745	103.2	103.8	105.3	103	103.8	103.3	104.2	1	−1
Construction	146	85	83	81	82	84	86	83	−3	4
Gas, electricity and water	72	123	128	128	131	129	125	133	6	4

Source: Central Statistical Office.

Table 2 Index of industrial production for Wales: market sector analysis [1]

seasonally adjusted 1970 = 100

Market sector	1970 [2] weights per thousand	Annual indices		Quarterly indices 1977				1978	Percentage change over previous	
		1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	Qtr	Year
Consumer goods sector	137	142.1	140.4	144.6	136.3	141.6	139.1	142.1	2	−2
Intermediate goods sector	594	99.0	95.4	99.2	94.0	96.1	92.5	92.7	0	−7
Investment goods sector	123	122.4	132.3	128.4	124.6	136.3	139.8	140.7	1	10

[1] See footnote [1] of table 1. [2] Construction industry (weight 146) is excluded from this analysis. p Provisional.
Source: Welsh Office.

Table 2a United Kingdom index[1]

Market sector	1970[2] weights per thousand	Annual indices		Quarterly indices 1977				1978	Percentage change over previous	
		1976	1977	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr p	Qtr	Year
Consumer goods sector	250	112.4	115.5	115.9	113.4	115.4	117.2	116.9	0	1
Intermediate goods sector	362	102.9	104.5	106.1	105.2	104.8	101.9	104.9	−3	−1
Investment goods sector	238	97.9	98.1	99.4	97.5	98.0	97.5	99.2	2	0

Source: Central Statistical Office. [1] [2] See footnotes to table 2.

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the four weeks ended 24 June 1978:

	£
Distributors' earnings submitted	
Low-cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2½)	35 513
Not eligible for 2½ times rental	42 125
	77 638
High-cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2½)	492 616
	570 254
Films under 3 000 ft (after multiplying by 2½)	128 873
	699 127
Levy collections paid to agency by HM Customs and Excise to 27 June 1978 including an estimate of collections approximately covering entertainments for the four weeks ended 24 June 1978	435 000

The eighth interim allocation for the twenty-first year will be at the rate of 55 per cent.

Reserves rise $193m in July

UK official reserves rose by $193 million (£100 million) during July. A total of $31 million (£16 million) was repaid early to the International Monetary Fund by the government. Foreign currency borrowing by the rest of the public sector under the exchange cover scheme amounted to $87 million (£47 million), and repayments to $191 million (£99 million). At the end of July, the reserves stood at $16,735 million (£8,670 million).

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 4 August 1978.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Review No. 12 (31st year)	BR/E 39698/6/8/83	8	4 August	Data Film Distributors Ltd	The National Coal Board
Movietone News 2565	BR/E 39589/6/8/83	8	4 August	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
FOREIGN					
Days in London	F 39693	97	3 August	Oppidan Entertainments Ltd	Tahsin Kawadri Beirut
Lenny Bruce Without Tears	F 39694	78	3 August	Cinegate Ltd	Fred Baker New York
Dersu Uzala	F 39695	141	3 August	Curzon Film Distributors Ltd	The Mosfilm Studio, Moscow
The Last Wave	F 39696	105	3 August	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Ayer Productions Pty Ltd, New South Wales
An Unmarried Woman	F 39697	124	4 August	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Co Ltd	Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation, California
Convoy	F 39699	110	4 August	Columbia-EMI-Warner Distributors Ltd	EMI Films Incorporated, California

Correction to the register
The registration number of the film 'Nest of Vipers' registered on 20 July 1978 has been corrected to F 39678.
The registration number of the film 'London Skateboards' registered on 20 July 1978 has been corrected to BR/E 39679/23/7/83 and the maker to Sunflower Films Ltd.

Amendment to the register
The registration number of the film 'Prisoner of Passion' registered on 4 May 1978 has been amended to EC 39568/7/5/83 and the maker to Senena Film '75 Rome.

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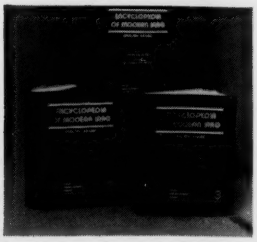

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